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Blackout at Saipan airport runway

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
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REPORTER

Only daytime flights are currently allowed to operate at the Francisco C. Ada-Saipan International Airport after a fire broke out in one of their hand holes last Saturday, causing a blackout on the runway and taxiway.

See BLACKOUT on Page 4

Car catches fire in Chalan Piao

A fire of unknown cause burned down a security agency's vehicle near Sherwood in Chalan Piao on Wednesday night.

No one was reported injured in the blaze, according to Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services spokesman Derek Gersonde.

The vehicle belonged to G4S. Gersonde said a security guard had parked the car in front of Sherwood and then conducted a routine inspection of the area. When the guard returned to the car, it was already on fire, Gersonde said.

See CAR on Page 4



DEREK GERSONDE

A vehicle owned by security firm G4S sustained extensive damage after catching fire near Sherwood in Chalan Piao on Wednesday night.

» Only daytime flights allowed right now
» Two days to get 80 pct. of lights up



Best Sunshine Live opens

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The ribbons have been cut for the first ever casino on Saipan.

Called "Best Sunshine Live," the casino inside the T Galleria shopping mall held its grand opening last Friday

night, welcoming government officials and business leaders with Chinese lion dances and Refaulwasch performers, plus overflowing drinks and appetizers.

The casino has been open since July, but only held its official grand opening last

Best Sunshine CEO Mark Brown, center, is joined by Saipan Mayor David Apatang, Senate President Victor Hocog, Commonwealth Casino Commission executive director Ed Deleon Guerrero, and other CNMI government officials in cutting the ribbons to the casino.

Friday. Dubbed a live-gaming training facility, the 45-gaming table casino is seen as Best

Sunshine's first step toward a projected \$7-billion integrated

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LOCAL

Arkansas is becoming a refuge of choice from rising seas in the Marshall Islands.

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NATION

A man stages a shooting attack on a Planned Parenthood clinic to oppose abortion.

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WORLD

Russian President Vladimir Putin calls for sanctions against Turkey.

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Local

Radio show raises awareness vs militarization of youth

By DAISY DEMAPAN
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REPORTER

Beyond the Fence, a weekly program that airs on Public Radio Guam 89.3 FM and Saipan 89.1FM, focused last week on a second International Week of Action Against the Militarization of Youth to call for non-violent actions to raise awareness of and challenge the ways young people are being militarized, and to give voice to alternatives.

The second International Week of Action Against the Militarization of Youth movement was held between Nov.

14 and 20, with many activists taking action and organizing events across the world including a movement to demilitarize schools in the United States.

According to the Anti-Military Youth website, "the Countering the Militarization of Youth project seeks to identify and challenge the many ways in which young people around the world are encouraged to accept the military and military values as normal, and worthy of their uncritical support. Militarization is a process that goes far beyond overt recruitment. It includes the presence and influence of the armed forces

in education, public military events such as parades, and military-themed video games. This website is one in a series of efforts to bring together a network of those already working on countering the militarization of youth in their own settings, and to encourage more people to take action on these issues."

The weekly radio show *Beyond the Fence* 89.1FM features interviews and coverage of public events offering analysis and personal perspectives on the local impacts of U.S. militarism in the Asia-Pacific region, especially in Guam and the Northern Mariana Is-

lands, and provides accounts of different forms of resistance, decolonization and sovereignty struggles, and the challenges of building community "beyond the fence" where U.S. bases and installations are located.

Last week's show titled "*Na' Matatnga I Manhoben*" or "To Make the Youth Brave" was hosted by anchor host and co-ordinator Dr. Vivian Dames and featured four Marianas women who shared first-hand accounts of student-led actions to counter the militarization of youth in Guam high schools.

Kisha Borja-Quichocho, a graduate of George Washing-

ton High School in 2004, went on to earn a BA in English from Hawaii Pacific University, an MA in Pacific Islands Studies from the University of Hawaii-Manoa, and an MA in Teaching from the University of Guam. In 2010, she returned to GWHS to teach language arts and became faculty adviser to a student club, *Na' Matatnga I Manhoben* or To Make the Youth Brave, the first public high school club committed to promoting peace, preserving the Chamorro culture, and countering military recruitment in the school.

She is currently a member of the faculty at the University of Guam, teaching courses in the School of Education and the Division of English and Applied Linguistics and serving as the editor for the Micronesian Area Research Center.

Nichole Quintanilla, a spoken word artist, apprentice weaver, actress, and Guam's public high school coordinator for the Sinangan-ta Youth Movement, Guam's official spoken word and poetry organization for youth, also shared her experiences with choosing to stay home or to join the military.

High school teachers Fanai Castro and Shannon Siguenza also talked about their experience advising a group of students from the Academy of Our Lady of Guam, Guam's only all-girls Catholic high school, that produced a short video message titled "Guahan in Solidarity with Tinian and Pagan" at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bL5yDV0IZtQ>.

The intent of their project was to express solidarity with those resisting the U.S. military plans to use Tinian and Pagan for live fire training.

The episode can be listened to in its entirety at kprg.podbean.com.

Youth resistance in the Marianas and other organizations involved in this movement include We Are Guahan, Our Islands Are Sacred, Manhita Marianas, Alternative Zero Coalition, and Please Help Save Tinian & Pagan group.

Sylvia C. Frain of the National Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies stated that, "Despite being part of the same archipelago as Guahan, the remaining 14 Mariana Islands are politically structured as the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, which is bound to the Covenant with the U.S. The Department of Defense conducts training and testing within the Mariana Island Range Complex, a 501,873 nautical mile range that is three times the size of California, and one of the largest DOD ranges in the world. In addition to the land the military occupies, it is estimated that at least one in eight Mariana residents are currently serving or have served in the U.S. Armed Forces. This colo-

nial relationship with the U.S. in which the entire Mariana Archipelago are considered U.S. 'sovereign soil,' directly allows for the current militarization as well as the planned Pacific Pivot 'buildup.' The DOD has proposed relocating thousands of Marines from Okinawa, Japan and the construction of live firing range complexes on sacred land while 'leasing' entire islands as bombing targets. Therefore, resistance is happening as an effort to change the current colonial political status, while also resisting the increased militarization by the DOD."

The release of the Guam buildup Record of Decision in August by the Department of the Navy and the Department of the Army has many continuing to resist and question their rights and sovereignty with the U.S. after the ROD went forward regardless of grass-roots opposition.

The ROD states: "A portion of U.S. Marine Corps forces currently located in Okinawa, Japan will be relocated to Guam. This relocation of Marine Corps forces will meet international agreement and treaty requirements and fulfill U.S. national security policy requirements to provide mutual defense, deter aggression, and dissuade coercion in the Western Pacific Region in response to the evolving security environment in the Pacific region..."

It further noted that, "a significant number of countries have ballistic missile capabilities which can deliver conventional, nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons," with other countries working to establish these capabilities and missile systems justifying their need for effective strike range of defensive ballistic missile systems that must be located in the proximity of protected assets or the islands to protect the territory of Guam, its citizens, U.S. and allied forces on Guam from the threat of harm from ballistic missile attacks from other countries and enemies of the United States.

For more information on youth resistance in the Marianas, go to: <http://antimili-youth.net/articles/2015/11/youth-resistance-mariana-islands-protecting-sacred-sites-united-states-military>

For more information about counter military recruitment, go to: <https://www.warresisters.org>, <http://www.nnomy.org> or www.facebook.com/antimiliyouth.

If you'd like to be a part of the show contact Vivian Dames at 671-734-8930 or email btfgprg@gmail.com

The show's studio is located in Mangilao on the campus of the University of Guam, Dean's Circle #13, next to the Isla Center for the Arts and formally broadcasted out of the Northern Mariana College in the '90s.

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PSS bosses object to decentralizing monetary powers

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The heads of the Public School System have objected to a House measure that would al-

low school principals to determine their school year budgets.

In written comments submitted last week to the House Committee on Health, Education and Welfare, Board of Education

chair Herman T. Guerrero and acting education commissioner Glenn Muña called House Bill 19-71 a violation of the CNMI Constitution and a limit on the implementation of board policy.

The education chiefs write that the bill's goals—to improve student outcomes—will not be met by a decentralized budget.

"The commissioner of education is by law both the expenditure authority and the administrative head of the Public School System," Muña and Guerrero wrote.

They note that the Constitution grants the power to create policy to the elected education board, and the power to administer this through the education commissioner.

"Any bill that would disturb these functions" violates the Constitution, they said.

Muña and Guerrero said the power to create and vote on budgets and budget policy is under the purview of the board and not the Legislature.

PSS believes the House bill would create three budgets to be

submitted to the Legislature instead of two—one for the board, another for the commissioner, and a third one for each school individually.

PSS believes this would create a "political" climate where lawmakers would appropriate more money into schools of their district.

PSS says deferred maintenance, universal Kindergarten, new textbooks, and technology require a "bird's eye view."

"We understand what this bill is trying to accomplish. It means

to create a system where individual principals—who know the particular needs of their schools—are empowered to act locally and effectively without interference. The idea is a good one. Many problems are school-level and can best be addressed by a principal, without the central office. However, this bill throws out the baby with the bathwater." The bill creates a large problem by "stripping the board and commissioner of their constitutionally mandated roles," Muña and Guerrero wrote.

The bill does not account for what decentralization would bring, PSS also said. PSS believes this would amount to "chaos," when it comes to reprogramming money and would leave administration of public schools up to the Legislature.

AG: FTZ bill for the Northern Islands is unconstitutional

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The Office of the Attorney General has commented on a couple of bills under review by the House of Representatives' tourism committee, calling one bill to establish free trade zones in the Northern Islands unconstitutional, and another, to allow 18-year-olds to serve and handle alcohol, legally sufficient.

In a Nov. 19 letter to committee chair Rep. Joseph Lee Pan Guerrero (R-Saipan), Attorney General Edward Manibusan said that Senate Bill 19-29, SD1 bypasses the Department of Public Lands' authority to manage, dispose, and designate public land as free trade zones.

The Senate bill would essentially task government agencies to expedite the establishment of free trade zones in the Northern Islands, notably the island of Pagan.

It states that "no action" has been taken on establishing free trade zones in the Northern Islands despite a previous law that established this provision. This inaction has "continued to delay economic growth for the Northern Islands," the bill states, in tasking the departments of Public Works, Public Lands, and

Lands and Natural Resources, along with the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality and the Commonwealth Ports Authority to "work expeditiously" with the Northern Islands mayor to identify these free trade zones.

The bill also states that in the event DPL fails to act within 180 days after the bill is in effect, the Legislature would declare these free trade zones.

In his letter to the House, Manibusan calls this provision unconstitutional. "It violates the separation of powers doctrine," he wrote.

He cited the CNMI Constitution and Public Law 15-2, which gives the authority to manage and dispose of public land to DPL. He said the designation of FTZs fall within this ambit and therefore is the province of DPL, not the Legislature.

"[The Senate bill] does not pass legal muster. It is unconstitutional and should not be sent to the floor...for approval," Manibusan told Guerrero.

House Bill 19-104, on the other hand, would essentially amend the Commonwealth Code to lower the legally allowable age to serve alcohol from 21 to 18. Manibusan said this measure is legally sufficient.

» **Bill to allow 18-year-olds to serve alcohol deemed 'legally sufficient'**

AG: Drag racing bill needs refinement

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

A House bill to legalize drag racing in the CNMI needs refinement, according to CNMI Attorney's General Office.

House Bill 19-103, which would vest the Department of Public Safety with the duty to establish fees, rules, and regulations for legal drag racing on "private and public property, is "too broad," according to CNMI Attorney General Edward Manibusan in a letter to the House Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations.

Manibusan said the bill gives virtual unbridled discretion to DPS to establish drag racing.

Without providing defined policy objectives, reasonable restrictions and limits, there is the real possibility that the bill would encourage the haphazard development of drag racing in the CNMI, which may prove harmful to public safety and welfare, he said.

"The bill should have an outright prohibition against drag racing on any public highway or streets," Manibusan said.

"There have been horrific traffic accidents involving drag racing on the Commonwealth's public highways that have claimed precious human lives," Manibusan added in his Nov. 19 letter.

Further, the AG said, if drag racing were to be legalized it must be directed to a legal racing area but "not any public highway or street."

In this case, DPS should be

the lead agency to provide safe operations based on existing programs like Beat the Heat, Racers Against Street Racing, or the National Hot Rod Association, Manibusan said.

"Only with proper and well-defined safety measures and restrictions in place can the Commonwealth benefit from legal drag racing," the AG states in his letter.

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Comment period extended for draft divert EIS

The U.S. Air Force announced Saturday that the comment period for the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Divert Activities and Exercises in the CNMI has been extended from Dec. 1 until Dec. 14. The Air Force published the Revised Draft EIS Oct. 16 and can be downloaded at www.PACAF-DivertMarianasEIS.com.

The Revised Draft EIS analyzes potential environmental impacts of modified versions of the alternatives originally presented in the June 2012 Draft

EIS. Since June 2012, the Air Force determined the policies and objectives of the National Environmental Policy Act would be best served by preparing a Revised Draft EIS and seeking additional comments on changes made as a result of comments received on the 2012 Draft EIS. Based on public and agency input into the 2012 Draft EIS, the Air Force removed a runway extension, aircraft hangar, munitions storage facilities, arm/disarm pad, tent lodging and fighter aircraft operations from each of

the three modified alternatives in the Revised Draft EIS.

The Proposed Action is to improve an existing airport or airports and associated infrastructure in support of expanding mission requirements and to achieve divert capabilities in the western Pacific. Under this action, the Air Force proposes to construct facilities and infrastructure at an existing airport or airports to support a combination of cargo, tanker and similar aircraft and associated support personnel for divert operations, periodic exercises and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief.

Proposed facilities would be used on an as-needed basis and

would not be used as a permanent full-time beddown or installation location. Saipan International Airport and Tinian International Airport and small areas near the respective seaports are considered alternative locations for the Proposed Action.

In accordance with NEPA and the Air Force regulations for implementing NEPA in 32 CFR Part 989.19(e), the Air Force prepared the Revised Draft EIS and provided it to the public for review.

Electronic files can be downloaded from the project website address listed above and below. In addition, printed copies of the Revised Draft EIS will be available for review at the following locations:

■ Saipan: Saipan Office of the Mayor; Joeten-Kiyu Public Library

■ Tinian: Tinian Office of the Mayor; Tinian Public Library

The public is encouraged to provide written comments to the Air Force for consideration in preparing the Final EIS. Written comments may be submitted via postal mail, email or the project website. All comments must be submitted or postmarked no

later than Dec. 14.

Mail comments to:
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Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, HI 96853
ATTN: PACAF Divert EIS
Email comments to paops@us.af.mil, or submit comments on the project website at www.PACAFDivert-MarianasEIS.com. (*Pacific Air Forces Public Affairs*)

CPA reiterates 'no' to Saipan divert airfield

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Ports Authority has reiterated its opposition to the hybrid divert airfield that is being proposed on Saipan.

In a board meeting last Wednesday, CPA board members restated their "no" to a divert airfield on the island.

"It was reiterated during last week's board meeting on Rota that CPA's position still remains, based on the resolution that was passed last year, that there will be no divert hybrid on Saipan," CPA executive director MaryAnn Lizama said.

"We are reiterating, we remain steadfast on that decision," she added.

Last year, CPA adopted board resolution 14-02 on the U.S. Air Force's divert activities and exercise initiative and proposed construction project in the CNMI.

The resolution informs the U.S. Air Force and the U.S. Department of Defense that CPA

will "only endorse and enter agreement for location of the divert [airfield] on the island of Tinian [and] will not support nor submit an airport layout plan for the Saipan International Airport for divert activities."

Last October, the U.S. Air Force released a revised draft environmental impact statement for a divert airfield project in the CNMI inclusive of three options for an airfield on either Saipan, Tinian, or on both islands.

The "hybrid" option, which military officials say spreads reduced operations on both islands, was the main selling point of the new draft that came three years after the first draft was released in 2012.

The CNMI government and the general public have until Dec. 14, to submit formal comments.

Lizama said they will be submitting comments that will also reflect their position.

"The comments that we're going to be submitting will also reflect that and has been reflective of our position with regards to Saipan divert," she said.

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauline_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has been approved to extend the validity of the utility vouchers that Best Sunshine International gave CUC's Saipan customers last year.

The \$10-million credit vouchers expired on Oct. 31.

"Those [vouchers] expired October. And so, not all the amount was consumed by the customers, so the CUC board asked the governor if they could be extended," acting executive director John Riegel said in an interview after the CUC's special board meeting last week.

During the meeting, CUC legal counsel James Sirok announced the approval of the extension.

"The governor has approved the extension of the expiration of our vouchers," Sirok said.

According to Sirok, instead of

until Oct. 31, the vouchers can now be used until March 1, 2016.

Each eligible household were credited \$635.71 in their accounts. Eligibility was on an account basis only and not directed to individual persons. Residential customers got their voucher assistance through an electronic credit process that was added to their account.

Not everyone was able to use it, especially those who didn't have utilities after Typhoon Soudelor.

The \$10-million utility assistance was part of BSI's community chest fund, which the company had vowed to release 60 days after it was issued an exclusive license to build a casino resort on Saipan.

BSI has also promised \$20 million, within 60 days after starting the construction of the casino, that will go to education, scholarships, infrastructure, health care, and employee retirement benefits.

BLACKOUT

From Page 1

According to Commonwealth Ports Authority executive director MaryAnn Lizama, the blackout happened around 6:30pm on Saturday after one of their hand holes caught fire. The airport's Aircraft Rescue & Fire Fighting team was able to put out the fire.

A hand hole is a shallow form of manhole where an underground electrical system can be accessed.

"We do not know the cause of it yet, but the fire from that electrical manifold caused the full blackout of the runway, taxiway lights as well as some parts of the apron lights," Lizama said.

Because there are no lights, nighttime flights are currently unable to operate at the airport.

"We're not closed; we just can't fly at night," Lizama said. "It's all about safety—no lights, no takeoffs, no landings."

Delays in the arrival of airplanes usually scheduled to come in at night are expected in the coming days. Some of the airlines that would be affected are Sichuan Airlines, Asiana Airlines, Jeju Air, and China



Bundles of wires were damaged in this hand hole at the Saipan International Airport after a fire that broke out last Saturday. The damage caused a blackout of the airport's runway and taxiway lights, restricting its flights operation to daytime only.

FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON

Eastern Airlines.

Four flights were delayed as of Sunday morning.

Lizama said she immediately reached out to acting governor Ralph DLG Torres regarding the problem and they arranged for a team from Guam to assist CPA.

"We are working expeditiously on this to get us back on 24-hour flight ops again," Lizama said.

At least two more dark nights

Electrician leader Richard Ca-

brera and electrician Peter Sablan from Antonio B. Won Pat International Airport in Guam arrived Sunday morning and immediately assessed the situation.

One more personnel from Guam will be on island today to help with the restoration.

Cabrera said yesterday morning that they were hoping to get 80 percent of the lights working before Sunday night. However, during an update with the airport operators and users committee meeting on Sunday afternoon, Cabrera said they would not be

able to do that after seeing the extent of the damage.

"After all the assessment and looking at the other hand holes and man holes, there is no way we can get that," Cabrera said.

He said about eight pairs of wires need to be replaced—three strands that are 3,000 feet long and four or five strands that are less than 3,000 feet long. Cabrera said they have the material on island to fix the wires.

Aside from the two nights that have already passed, the team is looking at two more nights at least that the taxiway and runway will be dark.

Despite the effects of the limited operations, the fact that there are no flight cancellations is welcome news for Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Tenorio, who also attended the meeting.

"The feedback that we got was that none of the flights were cancelled and they are working around the schedule of the operation of the airport to allow them to come here when the airport's open, so that's great news," Tenorio said.

"We're glad that they are coming in and no passengers are stranded," he added.

CAR

From Page 1

The blaze caused extensive damage to the vehicle's front part and inside.

Gersonde said they received a call from the Department of Public Safety's dispatch unit about a possible vehicle fire on Wednesday at 11:25pm.

Gersonde said firefighters from the Susupe fire station and medics from the Koblerville fire station responded to the location.

BEST

From Page 1

resort project on Saipan, and will train the employees for another project in Garapan—the \$500-million Grand Mariana Casino and Hotel Resort—which is now undergoing construction.

Government officials during the ceremony lauded the casino and asked for community support.

In his remarks, Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang—who cut the ribbons with Best Sunshine chief executive officer Mark Brown—thanked Imperial Pacific CNMI (LLC) and its companies for its contributions immediately after Typhoon Soudelor wrecked the island in August.

"Imperial Pacific [stepped] up to the plate to... ease the burden," he said.

Commonwealth Casino Commission chair Juan Sablan, part of the new industry's regulators, noted the millions and millions of dollars Best Sunshine has contributed to the Retirement Fund as part of the mandates that established them as Saipan's exclusive casino licensee.

He said over 3,000 retirees are benefiting and enjoying 100 percent benefits from the Fund.

He also assured that the commission is watching the casino 24 hours a day and witnessing daily money collections, among other activities.

"Please give this industry a chance," he said.

Edward Deleon Guerrero, the commission's executive director, said the 45 gaming tables and 106 slot machines at the casino have all been tested, certified, and audited.

He also noted the 10-year background checks that they have conducted for key casino employees.

"We are the policemen of the industry, but we also want to be a part of its growth," he said.

At 11:38pm, firefighters placed the fire under control.

"The cause of the fire is undetermined and still pending further investigation by the Arson Investigation Unit. Updates will be released when they are available," Gersonde said.

Last October, a fire of unknown cause engulfed a yellow Camaro that was rented by a group of Chinese tourists at Banzai Cliff in Marpi. No one was injured. DFEMS has yet to release information as to what caused that fire. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

In his remarks, Brown said that Friday night was about "giving thanks to everyone." He thanked the Best Sunshine team for working around the clock since the casino's July 26 soft opening.

He told reporters that the casino opened on Friday fully staffed.

Noting recent controversy in news articles, Brown said, "We have people that love us, people that don't," but the opening night was about giving thanks.

He said construction is going well for their other project in Garapan, slated for completion by late next year.

Brown noted that the grand opening for that project would be in a 500-seat grand ballroom stage with "stars coming in from everywhere."

Rep. Rafael Demapan—the lawmaker who authored Public Law 18-56 that ushered in the casino industry on Saipan last year—asked for the public's continued support for the industry to make sure they fulfill the mandates established by law.

Demapan, who also authored House Bill 19-95, which amended the casino law to, among others, fund casino regulators with casino license fees, said his bill would give regulators the needed funding to "ensure an establishment like this is taken care of."

He asked people for patience as they work to ensure the "added revenues that the CNMI can realize" from the industry.

The projected costs of BSI's temporary gaming facility in T Galleria in Garapan is between \$25 million and \$40 million, including costs to renovate, machines, and hiring costs, according to the Commonwealth Casino Commission.

A total of 590 employees have been hired so far, with as high as 700 employees estimated.

For their \$500-million casino resort in Garapan, BSI has projects a need for a minimum of 3,500 to 4,000 employees.

Woman opposes suspending her suit vs govt, CHCC, doctor

Kaye Christian, a woman who is suing the government for allegedly injecting her with medication against her will, is opposing the government's motion to suspend all proceedings in her lawsuit.

Attorneys Matthew Holley and Jeanne H. Rayphand, as counsels for Christian, asserted that staying discovery and trial is not warranted at this time.

Holley and Rayphand said

the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit may rule prior to the June 1, 2016, trial date, making it unnecessary to grant a stay of the trial at this time.

The lawyers said the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., CNMI government, and other individual co-defendants, fail to justify the need to suspend proceedings.

They said granting a stay would harm Christian by de-

laying the resolution of her controversies with law enforcement and the psychiatric unit at CHCC.

Holley and Rayphand said the resolution of the case is of critical importance to the civil rights of individuals with mental illnesses.

The Office of the Attorney General recently asked the federal court to stay or suspend all

proceedings in Christian's lawsuit until the Ninth Circuit renders its decision in the appeal pending before it in this case.

OAG Solicitor Division chief James Zarones and assistant attorney general David Lochabay assert that the interests of judicial economy compel that this matter be adjudicated at a single trial.

Zarones is counsel for the CNMI government, Rota Health Center's Dr. Francois Claassens, and Rota police officer Eusebio Manglona. Loch-

abay is counsel for CHCC.

Christian was involuntarily committed at the Commonwealth Health Center on Dec. 31, 2013. She was released from the psychiatric ward on Jan. 3, 2014, according to court documents.

Christian is suing the CNMI government, Claassens, CHCC, and Manglona for violation of the 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and violation of the CNMI Constitution, the Involuntary Civil Commitment Act, and Patient's Rights Act.

She is demanding payment of \$1.2 million in damages and seeking court's order directing the CNMI and CHCC to educate and train all employees on the Involuntary Commitment Act and Patient's Rights Act, among others.

Last May 26, the Commonwealth filed its notice of appeal before the Ninth Circuit of the court's order denying the Commonwealth's assertion of sovereign immunity. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

'Lujan is father-figure to Hillbroom'

Junior Larry Hillbroom wants his former counsel, Guam lawyer David J. Lujan, to be disqualified from his legal malpractice action against the attorney for alleged conflict of interest. Lujan, however, decided to represent himself as his counsel and withdrew from the case.

Hillbroom, through counsel David Bigelow, asked the U.S.

District Court for the NMI to disqualify Lujan from representing himself and/or his other former counsel, Barry Israel in this lawsuit.

Last week, Lujan and his counsel, Torres Brothers and Parker Mills law firms, notified the court about their agreement for the two law firms to withdraw as his counsel effective

immediately. Lujan has agreed to represent himself effective immediately.

The two law firms' withdrawal from the case was not indicated.

Hillbroom is suing Lujan and Israel for allegedly conspiring with a former trustee to inflate the attorney's contingency fee when the late business tycoon Larry Hillblom's fortune was still undergoing probate proceedings in Superior Court.

Bigelow asked the court to disqualify Lujan from representing himself and Israel on the grounds that Lujan will be called as a witness in this action, creating a conflict of interest.

Bigelow said Lujan is not just an attorney; he is a "father figure" to Hillbroom, someone who wields a lot of power and influence over Hillbroom.

Bigelow said it is this very power and influence that Lujan used to commit fraud upon

Hillbroom.

Bigelow said that Lujan's presence at Hillbroom's deposition or at trial would place an unreasonable emotional burden on Hillbroom.

"Their history and the volatile emotions that come with that would distract from the actual issues presented in this case," the lawyer said.

Guam lawyer Lujan and Vietnam-based Israel used to serve as counsels for Hillbroom in the

late Hillblom's probate matter in Superior Court.

Hillbroom was one of Hillblom's four heirs.

Hillblom, founder of DHL Express, died in a plane crash off the waters of Anatahan in 1995. His body was never recovered.

Approximately \$100 million in assets were distributed to Hillbroom in the settlement of the probate case for the Hillblom estate. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**



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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

JVA No. 15-052

Opening Date: Friday, November 20, 2015
Closing Date: Thursday, December 03, 2015

Trades Foreperson
(Electrician)

LOCATION : Power Generation, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
(If needed, there may be periodic assignment to other divisions of CUC and/or other islands.)
SALARY : \$28,935.00-\$39,062.00 per annum.
POSITIONS : One (1)
CONTRACT : Not Contracted.

For minimum requirements and full description, stop by or contact the Human Resource Office or visit our website at www.cucgov.org.

JVA No. 15-053

Opening Date: Friday, November 20, 2015
Closing Date: Thursday, December 03, 2015

Trades Technician
(Electrician)

LOCATION : Power Generation, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
(If needed, there may be periodic assignment to other divisions of CUC and/or other islands.)
SALARY : \$20,826-\$28,115 per annum.
POSITIONS : Seven (7)
CONTRACT : Not Contracted.

For minimum requirements and full description, stop by or contact the Human Resource Office or visit our website at www.cucgov.org.

JVA No. 15-054

Opening Date: Friday, November 20, 2015
Closing Date: Thursday, December 03, 2015

Trades Technician
(Mechanic)

LOCATION : Power Generation, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
(If needed, there may be periodic assignment to other divisions of CUC and/or other islands.)
SALARY : \$20,826-\$28,115 per annum.
POSITIONS : Ten (10)
CONTRACT : Not Contracted.

For minimum requirements and full description, stop by or contact the Human Resource Office or visit our website at www.cucgov.org.

JVA No. 15-055

Opening Date: Friday, November 20, 2015
Closing Date: Thursday, December 03, 2015

Trades Technician
(Diesel Power Plant Operator)

LOCATION : Power Generation, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
(If needed, there may be periodic assignment to other divisions of CUC and/or other islands.)
SALARY : \$20,826-\$28,115 per annum.
POSITIONS : Seven (7)
CONTRACT : Not Contracted.

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JVA No. 15-056

Opening Date: Friday, November 20, 2015
Closing Date: Thursday, December 03, 2015

Trades Assistant
(Diesel Power Plant Operator)

LOCATION : Power Generation, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
(If needed, there may be periodic assignment to other divisions of CUC and/or other islands.)
SALARY : \$16,742.00 per annum.
POSITIONS : Five (5)
CONTRACT : Not Contracted.

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JVA No. 15-057

Opening Date: Friday, November 20, 2015
Closing Date: Thursday, December 03, 2015

Warehouse Assistant

LOCATION : Warehouse, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY : \$14,704.00 per annum.
POSITIONS : Two (2).
CONTRACT : Not Contracted.

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JVA No. 15-058

Opening Date: Friday, November 20, 2015
Closing Date: Thursday, December 03, 2015

Trades Assistant
(Lineperson)

LOCATION : Power Division T&D, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY : \$16,742.00 per annum.
POSITIONS : One (1).
CONTRACT : Not Contracted.

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JVA No. 15-059

Opening Date: Friday, November 20, 2015
Closing Date: Thursday, December 03, 2015

Administrative Technician

LOCATION : Power Division T&D, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY : \$20,826.00 per annum.
POSITIONS : One (1).
CONTRACT : Not Contracted.

For minimum requirements and full description, stop by or contact the Human Resource Office or visit our website at www.cucgov.org.

JVA No. 15-060

Opening Date: Friday, November 20, 2015
Closing Date: Thursday, December 03, 2015

Trades Technician
(Electric Meter Technician)

LOCATION : Power Division T&D, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY : \$20,826.00 per annum.
POSITIONS : Two (2).
CONTRACT : Not Contracted.

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‘Saipan’s construction costs have tripled’

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Due to the high demand for construction services in the wake of Typhoon Soudelor, construction costs on Saipan have tripled in some cases, according to NMI Settlement Fund trustee Joyce C. H. Tang.

The NMI Settlement Fund Building on Capital Hill sustained some damage from Typhoon Soudelor that devastated the island last Aug. 2 and 3.

In her status report about the Settlement Fund, Tang said the metal sheet flashings, exhaust vent, and gutters on the roof of the Fund building were damaged.

After the typhoon, Tang said, the Fund replaced some air conditioning systems, repaired plumbing in the building’s second and third floors, and replaced several glass windows. The cost of repairs was \$4,300, she said, but that additional work is needed to repair roof leaks.

The proposals for repair, she said, is estimated to be between \$76,632 and \$103,518—amounts that she said are excessive considering the amount of work involved.

Tang believes that the repair and maintenance work can be performed for a fraction of the cost by procuring the materials directly and hiring laborers to perform the work.

Although the Settlement Fund maintains property insurance coverage with the First Net Insurance Company, she said the actual typhoon damage is quite small, and the Settlement Fund is investigating the roof leaks to determine coverage.


Because of a high deductible of \$100,000, these repairs will be out-of-pocket expenses for the Fund, Tang said.

She assured, though, that the building is a safe and suitable for use as office space.

After Typhoon Soudelor, the Federal Emergency Management Agency leased the building’s second and third floors for its headquarters for a three-month period at a cost of \$17,236.50 a month and an additional \$5,745.50 per month for utilities. FEMA recently requested to extend the lease term for an additional one month, to mid-December 2015.

The Commonwealth Office of Transportation Authority also leases 3,175 square feet of space on the second floor of the building for \$1.25 per square foot plus an average of \$1,500 for utilities per month.

Due to a reduction in federal grant funding, COTA has requested to reduce the office space it occupies from 3,175 square feet to 2,000 square feet.



Tang

als directly and hiring laborers to perform the work.

Although the Settlement Fund maintains property insurance coverage with the First Net Insurance Company, she said the actual typhoon damage is quite small, and the Settlement Fund is investigating the roof leaks to determine coverage.

Because of a high deductible of \$100,000, these repairs will

Family grief support meeting on Dec. 3

The Compassionate Friends of Saipan will be holding their monthly grief support meeting on Thursday, Dec. 3, from 6pm to 7:30pm, in the NMPASI conference room on Middle Road, in Gualo Rai.

The mission of The Compassionate Friends is to assist families toward the positive resolution of grief following the death of a child of any age and to provide information to help others to be supportive.

Today more than 600 chapters serving all 50 states plus Washington D.C., Puerto Rico, Guam and Saipan offer friendship, understanding, and hope to bereaved parents, siblings and grandparents and other family members during the natural grieving process after a child has died.

For more information, e-mail tcfSaipan@gmail.com or call Jill Derickson (989-9821). To learn more about The Compassionate Friends, visit their website at www.compassionatefriends.org. **(TCF)**



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The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC), as auctioneer and seller, hereby gives notice that all the rights, title and interests of NMHC in and to the following described real property will be sold at auction:

LOT NO.:	045 A 031	MATANSA DR., AS MATUIS, SAIPAN	MINIMUM BID :	\$25,000.00
	010 K 169	SIRENA AVE., DANDAN, SAIPAN		\$25,000.00
	008 T 266	MARPO HEIGHTS, TINIAN		\$25,000.00

The auction will be open to the general public and will be held at NMHC’s conference room, Garapan, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, November 30, 2015 subject to the following terms and conditions:

- Minimum Bid. The minimum acceptable bid for each property shall be \$25,000.00.
- Reserve. The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
- Rights and Duties of NMHC as Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, NMHC shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
 - To withdraw any property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
 - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - To reject any and all bids.
- Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for these properties listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Mr. Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director, NMHC, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950; Telephone: 234-6866; Facisimile: 234-9021; or to Law Office of F. Matthew Smith, P.O. Box 501127, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
- Deposit: Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale by cash, cashier’s check or credit card (Visa or Mastercard). The remaining balance will be due within three (3) calendar days of the auction sale. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within three (3) calendar days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer’s rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will automatically revert to NMHC.
- Change of Terms. NMHC reserves the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
- Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. The interests of NMHC in the property are being sold “AS IS” and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property or any related documents will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 28th day of October, 2015.

/S/Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation

Compassionate Friends hosting global candle lighting rites

By DAISY DEMAPAN
daisy_demapan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

In an annual global rite for grieving families, the Compassionate Friends of Saipan will be hosting a candle lighting ceremony on Dec. 13 as part of the 19th Annual Worldwide Candle Lighting Service to remember loved ones who have passed away.

According to the group's mission, "When a child dies, at any age, the family suffers intense pain and may feel hopeless and isolated. The Compassionate Friends provides highly personal comfort, hope, and support to every family experiencing the

death of a son or a daughter, a brother or a sister, or a grandchild, and helps others better assist the grieving family."

The Compassionate Friends Worldwide Candle Lighting unites family and friends around the globe in lighting candles for one hour to honor the memories of the sons, daughters, brothers, sisters, and grandchildren who passed away too soon. Preparations will begin at 6:45pm on Dec. 13 at Garapan Central Park. Candle lighting begins worldwide at 7pm.

The TCF will be planning a slideshow presentation in memory of loved ones and are inviting the community to sub-

mit one or two photos by Dec. 5 to nelsonkrum@msn.com.

Attendees of the service are also welcome to bring a framed photo or memento for display during the service. Families or attendees will also have the opportunity to light and hold their own candle in remembrance.

Music, reading, and light refreshments will be served following the ceremony.

The Compassionate Friends was founded over 40 years ago when a chaplain at the Warwickshire Hospital in England brought together two sets of grieving parents and realized that the support they gave each other was

better than anything he, as a chaplain, could ever say or provide. Meeting around a kitchen table, the Lawleys and the Hendersons were joined by a bereaved mother and the chaplain, Simon Stephens, and The Society of the Compassionate Friends was born. The Compassionate Friends was established in the United States and incorporated in 1978 in Illinois.

Now believed to be the largest mass candle lighting in the globe, the 19th Annual Worldwide Candle Lighting, a gift to the bereavement community from The Compassionate Friends, creates a virtual 24-hour wave of light

as it moves from time zone to time zone. TCF's WWCL started in the United States in 1997 as a small Internet observance, but has since swelled in numbers as word has spread throughout the world of the remembrance. Hundreds of formal candle lighting events are held and thousands of informal candle lightings are conducted in homes as families gather in quiet remembrance of children who have died, but will never be forgotten.

The Compassionate Friends and allied organizations are joined by local bereavement groups, churches, funeral homes, hospitals, hospices,

children's gardens, schools, cemeteries, and community centers. Services have ranged in size from just a few people to nearly a thousand. Today about 660 chapters serving all 50 states plus Washington D.C., Puerto Rico, Guam, and Saipan offer friendship, understanding, and hope to bereaved parents, siblings, grandparents, and other family members during the natural grieving process after a child has died.

For more information, contact Jill Derickson at 989-9821 or email jilld@pticom.com or Donna Krum at 783-1900 or email donnakrum@gmail.com.



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Arkansas a refuge from rising seas in Marshall Islands

By NICK PERRY and KELLY P. KISSEL
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MAJURO ATOLL, Marshall Islands (AP)—Valentino Keimbar hides from the intense heat in the shade of a breadfruit tree, waiting for his basketball game to begin. It was supposed to start a couple of hours ago, maybe three, but time matters little here on the Marshall Islands.

Keimbar would love to stay on this tiny string of atolls in the vast Pacific Ocean, which he considers a precious gift from his ancestors. But he fears hotter weather and rising seas may soon force everyone to go, and that many will choose an unlikely place 6,000 miles (nearly 10,000 kilometers) away: Springdale, Arkansas.

For more than three decades, Marshallese have moved in the thousands to the landlocked Ozark Mountains for better education, jobs and health care, thanks to an agreement that lets them live and work in the U.S. This historical connection makes it an obvious destination for those facing a new threat: global warming.

Keimbar, 29, last year traveled to Springdale seeking medical treatment for his 6-year-old son. Now he's considering moving permanently to secure a solid future for his children.

"Probably in 10 to 20 years from now, we're all going to move," he said.

Climate change poses an existential threat to places like the Marshall Islands, which protrude only 6 feet (2 meters) above sea level in most places. King tides, when the alignment of the Earth, moon and sun combine to produce the most extreme tidal effects, and storm surges are getting worse, resident say, causing floods that contaminate fresh water, kill crops, and erode land. As a result, some Marshallese think an exodus as inevitable, while others are planning to stay and fight.

Foreign Minister Tony de Brum is a vocal advocate for keeping global warming to a minimum, a position he'll be pushing when world leaders meet in Paris next week seeking a way to limit fossil fuel emissions.

Growing up on the lagoon, de Brum said, he loved catching rabbitfish off Enebok Island, which was lush with coconut and breadfruit trees. But in recent years, the small, uninhabited island has slipped beneath the water. At low tide, all that remains is an exposed pile of rocks that snags flotsam: a black sandal, some frayed green rope, a coconut sprouting a green shoot.

And in July, he recounted, lagoon waves whipped up by unusual winds swept a large yacht within a few feet of his bedroom window, and then beached it nearby.

De Brum said even a small rise in global temperatures



AP
This aerial Nov. 5, 2015, photo shows a boat that wrecked the back of Foreign Minister Tony Du Brum's house on Majuro Atoll in the Marshall Islands, Thursday, Nov. 5, 2015.

would spell the demise of his country of 70,000. While many world leaders in Paris want to curb emissions enough to cap Earth's warming at 3.6 degrees Fahrenheit (2 degrees Celsius), de Brum is pushing for a target that's 25 percent lower.

"The thought of evacuation is repulsive to us," he said. "We think that the more reasonable thing to do is to seek to end this madness, this climate madness, where people think that smaller, vulnerable countries are expendable and therefore they can continue to do business as usual."

■ ■ ■

The Marshallese who choose to leave have settled in Hawaii, Oklahoma and the Pacific Northwest, but Springdale has the most on the U.S. mainland and has taken on a special significance. Their numbers there have expanded to 6,000, nearly one-tenth of those who remain back home. Some jokingly call it "Springdale Atoll," and there's even a Marshallese consulate, the only one on the mainland U.S.

The pioneer was a man named John Moody, who moved in 1979 seeking an education and stayed for a job at Tyson Foods, one of the world's largest processors of chicken. Family and friends followed, and the population of Marshallese swelled after 1990.

"Arkansas is the land of opportunity," said Josen Kaiou, from the Marshall Islands town of Laura, who's lived in Springdale before and plans to move back next year. "You can help your family, and do whatever you want."

Carmen Chong Gum, the Marshallese consul general in Springdale, said while people still move for better jobs and health care, some are now citing climate change as a factor.

Gum works in a two-story



In this Nov. 5, 2015 photo, workers build a sea wall on Majuro Atoll in the Marshall Islands.

AP

building just off downtown's main street. It's decorated with a U.S. map with push pins marking where Marshallese live, a bulletin board listing job opportunities, and posters depicting medicinal plants and tropical fish found in the Marshall Islands.

Her people now even have their own newspaper. The first edition, published this fall, was written entirely in Marshallese and featured half-page advertisements for Marshall Islands political candidates because Springdale residents can vote absentee.

Many candidates spent months campaigning in Springdale. One was Alfred Ned, who hoped to pick up votes with his pledge to convince Japan and the U.S. to clean up the trash they left on his atoll during World War II.

Gum said she tries to help people understand what's expected of them in their new country: Enrolling their kids in school. Not parking on the grass. Not making too much noise. Paying their utility bills

on time. She said people tend to be much more relaxed about enforcing rules on the Marshall Islands.

There are also more serious challenges for those who move. While the agreement with the U.S. allows Marshallese to live and work in the U.S., they don't automatically become citizens, and most aren't eligible for welfare. That can result in hardship for any who suffer a serious illness or lose a job.

Life is sometimes hard in any case.

At the Tyson poultry plant where she works, Daisy Loeak has about two seconds to scan each freshly-killed Cornish hen that comes down the production line to decide if it's of premium quality. Any flaw like a bruised wing or a broken leg means it should be sold at a discount.

She routes the hens onto conveyor belts before they're packed into boxes and flash-frozen. Out of 300 workers at the plant, Loeak is one of about 120 Marshallese. She moved to Springdale in 2008 with her grandparents, who traveled to

the U.S. for a funeral and ended up staying.

"It's Chickendale, not Springdale," said Loeak, whose real name is Daisina, but who adopted a version that's easier for Americans to pronounce. She wells up with tears as she talks about rising sea levels, and says she misses her homeland.

"In the Marshall Islands, it's just more carefree," she said. "You go where you want."

■ ■ ■

Those who stay face their own challenges. At the Rita graveyard in Majuro, where many of his relatives are buried, Carlon Zedkaia watched in February as a king tide swept in and washed up against the base of gravestones, collapsing some and exposing human remains.

The tide flooded his nearby home, and he worries one day it will sweep right across from the sea to the lagoon, flooding all the land. He's upset about the damage to the graveyard and worries there will be no spot for him to be buried there.

"It's not our fault that the tide is getting higher," he said. "Just

somebody else in this world that wants to get rich."

Poet Kathy Jetnil-Kijiner said the world needs to save her islands to save itself - that if the atolls are allowed to slip beneath the waves, the rest of the Pacific and the U.S. coastline would be next.

"What will happen to our culture? What will happen to our stories? What will happen to thousands of years of history?" she said. "What will happen to the next generation? They won't know where they're from. They'll be rootless. They'll just be wandering. And I don't want that to happen at all."

In August, the 600 residents on the small island of Kili effectively raised a white flag after the island was repeatedly buffeted by storms and flooding, sometimes cutting off residents completely from the more populous atolls.

The islanders are descendants of the Bikini atoll residents who were moved to make way for U.S. nuclear testing after World War II. They are now petitioning Washington to allow them to spend their resettlement trust fund money abroad, an option that would allow them to move to Arkansas or anywhere else they choose.

The U.S. seems amenable, said Jack Niedenthal, the Bikini trust liaison, but has yet to take the required Congressional action. Niedenthal said that while he will fight to stay, he sees an eventual evacuation of the Marshall Islands as almost inevitable.

"In the end it's like 60,000 people against 8 billion," he said. "And I don't know how you get the rest of the world to change their habits."

For some, the notion of exactly what constitutes a homeland is becoming fluid.

Sheldon Riklon, a Marshallese doctor who lives in Hawaii, said he's always wanted to return home to serve his people.

But after visiting Springdale last year, he's expanded his definition of the Marshall Islands to include Arkansas, and is considering moving there instead. He's encouraged by the potential of the Marshallese youth, many of whom are succeeding at school. And he said the friendliness of Arkansas may in the end be the thread that connects it to home.

"It definitely wasn't what I expected. I mean, besides the weather. It really opened up my eyes to the kindness of people there," he said. "It's really similar to the Marshallese lifestyle, and the way of dealing with visitors, in that they were very welcoming."

Small craft advisory in effect until 3pm today

A small craft advisory for hazardous seas is in effect until 3pm today, Monday. Waves are expected to be hazardous to small craft, based on information received from the National Weather Service in Guam and compiled at the CNMI Emergency Operations Center. Seas of 8 to 11 feet are expected until this afternoon. Seas will then diminish to

between 7 and 9 feet tonight. Seas will still remain elevated after that, then may challenge small craft advisory criteria again next weekend. Inexperienced mariners, especially those operating smaller vessels, are being advised to avoid shoaling areas where long period swell can sharpen into large breaking waves. It is not unusual for waves to break much farther from shoaling areas than is normally experienced. Remember, breaking waves can easily capsize even larger vessels. **(EOC)**

MCS Q1 President's List and Honor Roll

Mount Carmel School congratulates these students for making it to the 3rd Quarter President's List & Honor Roll.

PRESIDENT'S LIST

Students must have a GPA of 4.00 or above and must attain character marks of VG or above.

1ST GRADE

Calvo, Michael
Matsumoto, Akoni Jesus
Matsumoto, Naomi Skye
Melchor, Sarah Angela
Pangilinan, Nicole Angela
Propst, Kaden Christian
Reyes, Frank Anthony
Sasamoto, Yukiko Kiyomi
Sulyman, Shamirur
Tenorio, Jose Clarence
Tudela, Elle Brie

2ND GRADE

Atalig, Danika
Backe, Asa Vanessa
Battalones, Maria Corazon
Buenafior, Oscar Bien
Camacho, Meagan Brylee
Cruzana, Joaquin Ian
Dela Santa, Heleyna
Estella, Valerie Anne
Hayes, Alana
Javier, Lance Jericho
Maratita, Elise Divine
Matsumoto, Ayanna Faith
Mendoza, Mikaehla Paige
Ogo, Therese Joy
Palacios, Leighton
Pangelinan, Mya
Pangelinan, Joseph Brandon
Pangelinan, Camron
Pontiveros, Emmanuel
Santiago, Gavril Myles
Tenorio, Jessiana
Tomokane, Peige Morgan
Travilla, Riana Joy

3RD GRADE

Camacho, Irie
Castro, Kenneth S.
Chang, Jada
Duenas, Quimarie L.
Kautz, Claire

Lobo, Angelo
Mallari, Laizza
Mariano, Nicloe
Naputi, Elialyn
Nicholas, Jalen
Palacios, Tricia
Pamintuan, Manuel
Park, Jesse Lee
Reyes, Chelsy Anne
Sablan, Aaliyah
Sablan, Kiana
Santos, Dylan
Sasamoto, Hitomi Rosa
Steele, Lyssa
Taimanao, Aryana
Tenorio, Malina
Toskas, Ari
Travilla, Arturo

4TH GRADE

Ano, Natalie
Bang, Leo
Bocago, Ranasia
Chen, Jeery
Dayrit, Jenarisa
DelaCruz, L'Wina
Gamab, Gwen
Guerrero, Ruben
Lee, Ru Da
Militante, Ethan
Pangilinan, Destiny
Propst, Devon
Reyes, Vicente
Sablan, Andrew
Takayama, Lezandra
Tasi, Siana
Torres, Maria
San Nicolas, Earle
Doronila, Kyle Jay
Torres, Tiana
Valiente, Jhazmyn
Terlaje, Jared G.

5TH GRADE

Cabrera, Kyla
DelaCruz, Kina
Galang, Raphael
Green, Lynzey
Hunter, Brissa
Omar, Salina
Ortiz, Brent
Pangelinan, Manuel
San Nicolas, Earle
Sasamoto, Yurihana Rosa

Sasamoto, Derek
Park, Jun Lee
Dancoe, Lady-Vanessa
Baldazo, Keehara
Muna, Sienna Jade
Militante, Donnie
Camacho, Vidal
Irang, Clint Allen

6TH GRADE

Aldave, Lynette
Alvarez, Robin
Ano, William
Bucalig, Fiona
Santos, Kevin
Chong, Kevin
Combinido, Jewel
Diaz, Jeremiah
Guerrero, Christian
Mallari, Vaughn
Mendiola, Alleah
Muna, Devon
Propst, Kiana
Sablan, Vidal
Schweiger, Theresa
Steele, Richard
Tenorio, Joshua
Tenorio, Mariana

7TH GRADE

Avendano-Woodruff, Katherine
Cunanan, Nathanael
Guerrero, Juan
Hunter, Brandee
Mendoza, Mikee
Minami, William
Perez, Carmille
Reyes, Kyana
Sablan, Penelope
Salvador, Vince
Sato, Maaya
Torres, Dominic

8TH GRADE

Borja, Kalea
Ham, Jim Michael
Yamagata-Santos, Danielle

9TH GRADE

Batusin, Aldwin
Bobadilla, Jan
Castro, Rosa
Chinen, Quincy
Cho, Hyo Lim
Han, Louisa
Leong, Giselle
Macaranas, Dayna
Manese, Angelo

Moran, Matt
Pangelinan, Rosalia
Ramirez, Reica
Sato, Karen
Sizemore, Langting
Terlaje, Maria G.

10TH GRADE

Kim, Taeyeon
Lim, Nathanael
Kim, Min Jung
Melchor, Jeff Matthew
Palacios, Michelle
Toskas, Jonelle
Usi, Monica
Villacrusis, Geuel
Yun, Seok Jun
Zheng, Theresa

11TH GRADE

Cushing, Arron
Deleon Guerrero, Zeno
Doctor, Jaqueline
Hunter, Brianna
Jun, You Jin
Ortiz, Michael
Santos, Joshua
Xu, Xianodie (Rachel)

12TH GRADE

Amog, Quinn
Deleon Guerrero, Lance
Evangelista, Amalina
Iwai, Emiri
Javier, Cathryn
Kim, Ki Youn
Manglona II, Thomas Lee
Pak, Han Byeol
Pangelinan, Jonathan
Ryu, Sung Hun

HONOR ROLL

Students must have a GPA of 3.66 or above and must not have any behavior grade of U or NI.

1ST GRADE

Camacho, Kesil
Cabrera, Risha
Concepcion, Jeffrey
Catacutan, Cedric
Castro, Christine
Esguerra, Maria
Guerrero, Patrick
Gragasin, Justin
Lobo, Mikaela
Sasamoto, Enzo

Sasamoto, Hiromi
Tomokane, Pedro
Villagomez, Sage

2ND GRADE

Aldan II, Jesse John
Cabrera, Zion
Deleon Guerrero, Nyla
Ignacio, Lance
Kapileo, Vivica
Tizon, Quince

3RD GRADE

Chae, Davina
Gozon, Raphael
Lee, Jamie
Lee, Ru Ma
Lee, Hanseo
Mallari, Audrein
Patawaran, Breana
Taisacan, Nevaeh
Villegas, Kimberly

4TH GRADE

Barcinas, Alicia
Blanco, Elisa
Buensalido, Angel
Deleon Guerrero, Ierlyma
Deleon Guerrero, Leland
Jung, Min Ki
Lacap, Elisha
Mafnas, Breanna

Sheu, Jonathan
Sulyman, Shamira
Tolentino, Leyonne
Villegas, Miguel
Manglona, Aiyana
Ogo, Christian
Bao, Kevin
Lopez, Chloe

5TH GRADE

Avendano-Woodruff, Uriel
Borja, O'Hane
Camacho, Anika
Chen, William
Deleon Guerrero, Serafin
Diaz, Carlo
Palacios, Ryonra
Sablan, Aubriana
Sablan, Matthew

6TH GRADE

Bocago, Taliyah
Camacho, Alyson
Duenas, Monique
Fernando, Karvin
Guerrero, Izabela
Kang, Jerica
Lacap, Hannah
Mafnas, Christopher
Torres III, Vincent
Travilla, Kaia
Vidal, Gayle

Villar, Jedric

7TH GRADE

Ayuyu, Maria
Attao, Kyle
Aldan, Kadie
Bachani, Tanisha
Kim, Dae Hun
Galang, Aldraine
Hemley, Gia
Gatmaitan, Xavier
Guanlao, Raymalyn
Kang, Kevin
Kapileo, Mark
San Nicolas, James
Tomboc, Rueben
Tyquengco, Auriana

8TH GRADE

Buenaventura, Riley
Javier, Lleyton
Pak, Nicole
Paul, Monita
Reyes, Vincent
Sanchez, Ma. Charlize
Tkel, Zane

9TH GRADE

Attao, Allysa
Acosta, Ydylle
Cunanan, Erika
Camacho, Gary

Lee, Seo Yeon
Irang, Maverick
Ocampo, Justin
Paraiso, Joanie
Tabora, Earl

10TH GRADE

Mafnas, Shana
Mizuno, Asami
Salas, Darian
Torres, Cassidy
Won, Suhyeon

11TH GRADE

Camacho, Keona
Camacho, Eligiah
Chao, Shirley
Han, Ya
Higuchi, Kai
Lee, Eric
Reyes, Karleen
Travilla, Jan-Nasia
Xu, Wanzheng (Angel)

12TH GRADE

Angelica Diaz
Bang, Ji Eun
Hofschneider, Stephen
Jo, Hyun Woo
Min Gyu Kim
Santos, Alvaro
Taimanao, Janika T.
Takahashi, Mikiya



Draft CNMI Wildlife Action Plan now available
for review and comment

Help take care of species and habitats across our islands

Download at www.cnmidfw.com/2015wap or view at the library
on Saipan, Tinian, or Rota
Comments accepted through Dec. 6, 2015



For more information contact the Division of Fish and Wildlife:
www.cnmidfw.com
wildlifeactionplan@cnmidfw.com
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Following Information/Documents Required
Property Map/As Built Map/ Total Land Area
If available for existing building showing
exact location & building details
Owner Title Information
Owner Asking Price

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

A prescription for tax avoidance

You've got to hand it to pharmaceutical giant Pfizer Inc.: It's managing to make Americans resent drug companies even more than they already did.

The maker of Viagra and Lipitor is the latest to announce a merger that's designed at least in part to escape high U.S. corporate tax rates. In a \$160 billion deal, it would subsume itself into a smaller foreign rival, Allergan, to create the world's largest drug manufacturer—still called Pfizer, still operating out of New York City, but based for tax purposes in Allergan's home of Ireland. (Allergan itself was a U.S. company until an Irish drugmaker bought it in March.)

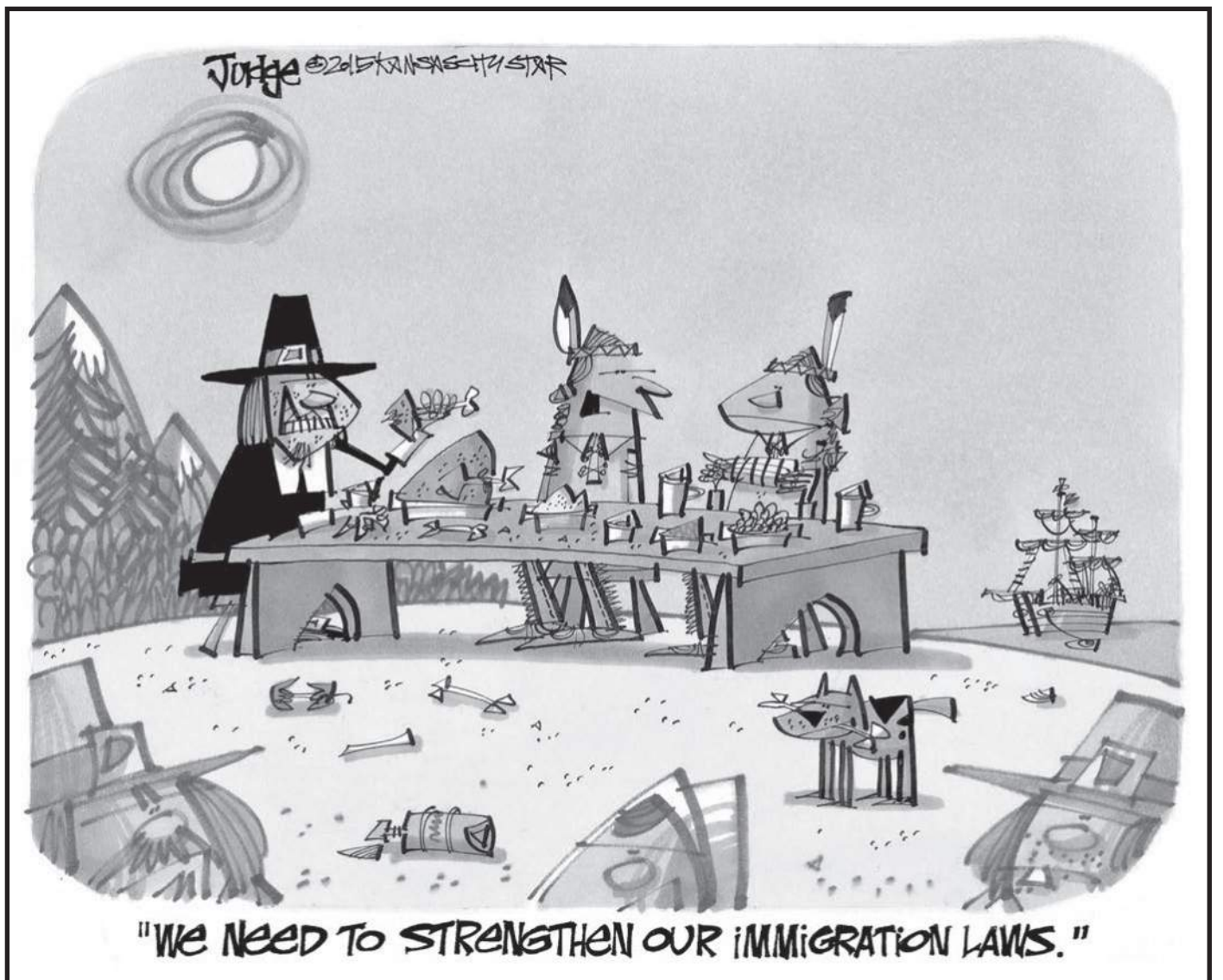
Politicians roundly blasted the blockbuster deal, as they have previous episodes of corporate re-flagging. To many policymakers, these tie-ups are nothing more than tax evasion; the U.S. companies involved often don't move their operations, they just use accounting techniques to shift what tax authorities consider their home.

Just last week the Treasury Department announced new rules aimed at blocking this sort of corporate "inversion," but Pfizer and Allergan structured their deal in a way that's expected to shield them from those regulations. That's been the result every time Congress or the administration has tried to halt these maneuvers: Companies figure out how to do them anyway.

The root of the problem is that lawmakers have enacted tax policies seemingly without regard for what the rest of the world does, as if large companies don't have plenty of alternatives when looking for a place to call home. Not only does the United States have the highest corporate tax rate in the developed world, it's the last of the major countries to tax a multinational company's foreign profits—a tax it collects when the company puts those profits to use in the U.S. The result is a powerful incentive for companies to plant their headquarters (for real or just for tax purposes) elsewhere, or just not to repatriate any of the money earned outside our borders.

Simply put, Congress needs to make U.S. business taxes more competitive with the rest of the world's. That includes lowering the rates, preferably by winnowing the thicket of exemptions, deductions and credits so as not to reduce the total amount raised. It's politically daunting because some companies would get a tax cut while others would pay more, and the latter would lobby fiercely to preserve the status quo. But it's something lawmakers will have to do if they want to stop the exodus of multi-nationals to lower-tax locales.

(c)2015 Los Angeles Times



The Earth as neighbor

“Who is thy neighbor?” is an old question that some of us grew up with. The Gospel of Luke in the *Biblos* relates the story of the Good Samaritan. Sunday school got us focused on the goody-goody part rather than the affront that a Samaritan assisting a Jew was two millennia ago.

Samaritans were non-Jews, of Assyrian descent, and for the practice of being ethnically of pure stock, Jews kept the DNA home. Samaritans were damaged goods. In India in the '70s at the plateau of Maharashtra, people of the upper caste would not let their shadow cross that of an untouchable, Gandhi's *harijan*, “child of Hari Vishnu” (though the term *harijan* is considered too condescending and no longer used) who were non-persons. An Indo-Aryan recently burned down a lower caste hut with two children under 10 as casualties.

So the gospel story of the Good Samaritan was one that confronted Jews' disdain of anyone other than their covenanted race, an “it” to be either used or shunned. In our time, the question of who is my neighbor is not a question of locating the feel-good goody-goody-good shoes. It is a real question. Which object have we treated as an “it” rather than a subject that we relate to, rely and depend on to sustain our survival? Dang right, planet Earth.

A UN conference on climate change gathers in Paris starting today until Dec. 11 with a Summit of the Nations on the 5th. Doom-sayers and naysayers are plenty, treating the planet as an object that goes with the European perspective, the version of Christianity that we inherited from when Padre Vittores brought European ethos into our Maria Ana shores, the earth as a created thing.

It is only in recent times that the Earth took on an organic quality; “it” took a paradigm shift as an organism that lives on its own processes, and can also die, though that is an unlikely option in the immediate future. Oh, sure, we can kill all the living organisms, though I am sure some bacteria can survive, but the planet will survive.

Thanksgiving Day was a festival in November, a recognition of the Earth's bounty. This symbiosis between human bodies and the Earth is recognized by all cultures, but of late, the advantage has been one-sided as the human exploitation has been detrimental to the health of the planet.

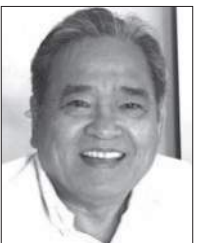
Not too long ago, in a river in Harbin, Heilongjiang in China, a company dumped chemicals that rendered the river a mess for two years until authorities got around to cleaning it up. Of course, expediency—if not corruption in public offices worldwide—also meant that reports of cleanups could not be totally relied on.

That the human drive for profit has made human enterprises suspect at the start rather than “trust but verify” renders any effort to be

By **JAIME VERGARA**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



ecologically friendly a matter of public relations rather than simply a trustworthy act. That is what makes the Earth as my neighbor, with everything on it under my guardianship, so appropriate as the Good Samaritan story of our time.

I am a voice in the wilderness decrying automatic identification of national and regional identities based on the colonial definitions of a previous era. Born and raised in the Philippines, I became clear that the mountain folks in the Caraballo, Sierra Madre and Cordillera mountains had nothing in common with the Indo-Malay plains folks who migrated later as extended families in their boats (*barangay*), the name we adopted for the country's smallest political settlement unit. We are the Philippines by virtue of the colonial definition of Spain belonging to Felipe II, Anglicized as Phillip, that the Itnegs took exception to for they have nothing in common to the Warays in Samar and Leyte.

To be a nation is a choice. The “unity” of the geophysical nature of the archipelago was enough to make us one. But that is a choice, not an inheritance from Spain. That is not exclusive of other ethnic groups, given that our Malay heritage originated from Indo-Malay strains, the same way as our remaining Austronesian kin out in the hinterlands relates to the rest of the Austronesians in the Pacific, or the Sinosphere blood out of the Far East Asian coast to Northern Luzon, and now, the mestizos who mingle European and U.S. stocks with the natives.

The R.P. and U.S. do not hold my major political allegiance. I am a creature of earthrise consciousness, an avid laborer in the earth-bound commitment field. I am an earthling with a deep sense of global citizenship.

The Earth has natural processes, how it regulates water to parcel the use of land. It has wind and ocean currents, tornadoes and hurricanes. Most importantly, it has humans in a process of continuing evolution. The planet is evolving in the same way humans are, and we are smart to understand that our individual destinies, not to mention that of the human race, are dependent on the health and wellbeing of the planet itself. If you ask me again who my neighbor is, I do not equivocate: the planet Earth and all that is in it. Period.

Work on ethics law loophole; no exemptions from ‘gift’ cap

Even after the Office of the Public Auditor and the Office of the Attorney General raised their concerns about a bill raising the limit from \$50 to \$200 the nonmonetary value of gifts that government officials and employees can accept, the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations still came up with a version that fails to take into account any sensible recommendation from OPA to put more teeth into the Ethics Code Act.

Hopefully, the next time around, the JGO Committee chaired by Rep. Glenn L. Maratita will do a much better job in making sure the bill is not a waste of time, effort, and other resources.

House Bill 19-84 has been sent back to committee for further review. But some of the proposed changes do not make sense at all and have the potential to further erode public confidence in government.

A better idea is to scrap HB 19-84, authored by Rep. Joseph Lee Pan T. Guerrero (R-Saipan). In its place, a new bill should be introduced to put a plug on the ethics law loophole that’s been pointed out time and again, including more recently by Public Auditor Michael Pai.

This loophole in the Ethics Code Act is the lack of an aggregate limit on the value of nonmonetary gifts that government officials and employees can accept.

A meaningful amendment to the ethics law, as suggested by OPA, is putting an \$85 threshold on the allowable nonmonetary value of gift, with an aggregate limit of up to \$200 “in a calendar year” from any given entity. This is coupled with a requirement that all such gifts be reported to OPA, including penalty for failure to report.

The \$85 takes into consideration inflation since 1992 when the ethics law was enacted. That means the value of \$50 in 1992 is now equivalent to around \$85, far less than HB 19-84’s original proposal of \$200.

As the public auditor pointed out, while single nominal gifts may not seem as though they can cause influence or erode public confidence, in the aggregate they easily can.

“A \$200 threshold with no aggregate limit could easily turn into a sum much more than a one-time meal of \$150. This loophole is very concerning,” the public auditor said in a letter to the bill’s author, who is also a member of the JGO Committee.

The OPA letter is dated Oct. 14. Six days later, the JGO Commit-

tee completed its report.

Besides Maratita and bill author Guerrero, other JGO Committee members are Reps. Francisco S. Taimanao, Blas Jonathan “BJ” Attao, Anthony T. Benavente, Rafael Demapan, and John Paul P. Sablan.

The JGO Committee and other lawmakers must consider this, too: The federal government’s threshold for nonmonetary gifts is \$20, as long as the gifts from one person do not exceed \$50 in a calendar year.

Again, currently, a CNMI government official can accept \$50 in nonmonetary gift or dinner from a casino investor, for example. However, nothing in the ethics law prohibits the same government official from receiving another \$50 gift or dinner from the same casino investor during the following day, week, or month.

HB 19-84’s title is to increase the \$50 cap to \$200, but the committee version retained the \$50 cap and now the bill title no longer matches the intent. Guerrero said the JGO Committee is addressing this. But again, it takes way more than just changing the bill title for the measure to make more sense.

There is also a plan to exempt the governor, lieutenant governor, lawmakers and other elected officials from the \$50 cap. This is a bad idea.

These elected officials are the very first ones to be offered gifts, dinner and drinks by private interests, as well as visiting dignitaries. And even now, government officials and employees are already required to report anything they receive that exceeds \$50 but we have not heard of anyone doing so.

OPA pointed out that the purpose of a low threshold is primarily to safeguard against the “appearance of impropriety rather than preventing actual influence peddling.”

Even innocent nominal gifts from regulated parties to their regulators carry risk of the appearance of impropriety, OPA said. These dangers, it added, “are only compounded when the limits are raised, especially if there is no aggregate limit or reporting requirements.”

While OPA acknowledges the difficult position that public officials find themselves in—between rejecting an innocent, well-intended gift and strict compliance with the law—OPA is nonetheless standing behind the 8th Legislature’s purpose in enacting the ethics law.

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Haidee V. Eugenio is a veteran journalist in the CNMI.



This is to ensure public officials are free from influence and potential conflicts of interest, to develop accountability and preserve public confidence in government.

If Northern Marianas College students or another entity were to conduct a survey today on whom people perceive or believe to be the most untrustworthy or most corrupt in the CNMI government, guess which government positions will come out on top of the survey list?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Congratulations!

Kudos to the MHS Aeronautical Dolphins for back-to-back wins in a nationwide competition. They make the CNMI proudly stand out among regional, territorial and national school systems. Congratulations to their inspirational teacher and coach, John Raulerson, for the unprecedented victory. He has my vote for the “Educator of the Decade” award.

John B. Joyner, Ph.D.

Adjunct Instructor, NMC

Stop the ‘R’ Word Campaign

Since 2008 or thereabouts there was a movement in America to eliminate the use of the word “retarded” as it is a hurtful and degrading word.

Since I was in grade school, the word was used around me almost daily. It was used to humiliate the struggling students. It was used to bring down those who stood out. It was used to belittle anyone who was different.

I am not innocent of this. My three brothers and I used the “R” on each other because it was part of our vocabulary and we did not know better.

It was not until my brother William was called this by someone else that I saw how it could hurt. Lucky for my brother we were all behind him; unfortunately, many other people are alone and have no one on their side.

In high school, as a Dolphin at MHS, I witnessed bullies use it to devastating degrees on their victims. Again, the victims were alone, different, and or smaller.

As an adult, I see how it has negatively affected people whom I, and my NMPASI team serve.

People with disabilities are not so different from anyone else. They too deserve to be treated with dignity and respect.

The “R” word has traditionally been used to hurt people, and more often than not, to hurt people with disabilities.

In 2010, our President Barack Obama stepped up to the plate and signed “Rosa’s Law.” Rosa Marcellino, for whom the law was written, was 9 years old at the time and had Down’s syndrome. She and her family advocated to eliminate “mental retardation” in health and education codes. “Intellectual disability” is now used instead.

I am proud to announce that from my experience, our Public School System has followed suit.

Though law now, it is still up to us individually to live above discrimination. Stand up for the bullied, eliminate the “R” word from our vocabulary and help change our islands for the better.

At NMPASI, we pride ourselves on treating everyone with dignity and respect. We believe that when we focus on similarities and not differences, we learn to appreciate each other and the colorful qualities that we each bring to the table.

So now, I ask you to consider removing the “R” word from your vocabulary to further the Stop the “R” Word Campaign efforts and to treat everyone with dignity and respect. The CNMI is already a wonderful place with wonderful people, but we can still do more.

For more on the “R” word, please call NMPASI at 235-7273 or 4; TTY and Fax at 235-7275; or online at www.nmpasi.org.

Happy Thanksgiving to everyone and their family!

Thomas M. Thornburgh

NMPASI Program Manager

How to make America great again? National service

By WILLIAM J. BYRON

THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

What if there had been one really big idea—not necessarily a new idea, just a big one—on either side during the excessively long and embarrassingly expensive race for the White House in 2012?

National service, for example?

It is ironic that George Romney, father of the unsuccessful Republican candidate and an unsuccessful presidential contender himself, became an advocate for national service long after his political career had ended. He often said, “National service should be as visible as the Post Office.” Everyone sees the ubiquitous mailboxes and the soaring-flight images on the Postal Service logo.

Romney wanted national service in various forms—not just military, but also elder care, child care, conservation of natural resources, and rebuilding of national infrastructure—to become part of our culture, integral to the American way of life.

I think he was right, and it is time to take a good look at the potential for national revitalization associated with a creative program of national service.

There was, as everyone knows, compulsory military service during the Second World War. Later, in exchange for each month spent in the military, veterans of World War II were entitled to two months of higher or vocational education—tuition, fees and books—in independent or public institutions of their choice, paid for by the federal government. This was the so-called G.I. Bill of Rights, enacted because members of Congress feared that there would be widespread unemployment of Great Depression proportions when the veterans of World War II returned to civilian life.

The G.I. Bill turned out to be the greatest investment in human capital ever made in this country. And the return to the treasury—the higher taxes paid over the decades since 1950, thanks to the higher incomes that veterans earned as a result of the higher education they received—has been enormous. In effect, the program benefits proved, over the long run, to be self-financing.

In those days, young men between 18 and 26 years of age had no choice. If they were physically and mentally fit, they had to serve. It was a national emergency. Two words provided the rationale for compulsory service: Pearl Harbor.

It would take a lot more than two words to come up with a rationale for a compulsory national service program today, and perhaps that case cannot be made.

But if a national service program were open now to all American

men and women ages 18 to 26, and if the areas of service included nonmilitary opportunities like tutoring low-income children, cleaning up urban slums, and participating in conservation projects, it could have a major impact on this country.

The need for national service—compulsory or voluntary—lies in the evident drift and purposelessness in so many young people today. Their parents see it; those who counsel them in high school or advise them in college see it. The unemployment statistics and the data collected on drug abuse, crime and, to a small but frightening degree, instances of youth suicide point to the problem. Does it all add up to a national emergency? I think it does.

Young people are not needed today on farms or in factories. But they could be used in meeting unmet societal and environmental needs.

Imagine the possibilities. Young people could mature and gain a sense of purpose during their years of service—as those who served during World War II did. And then they could take advantage of educational opportunities that would prepare them for productive careers—as the World War II vets did. The nation benefits, from both the service and the post-service productivity.

Anyone who hopes to succeed President Barack Obama in 2017 should be looking at national service. It would be wise to compute the historical cost and the return on investment associated with the G.I. Bill, if for no other reason than to anticipate the criticism that will certainly be voiced about the cost of any new national service program.

Of course, there is work to be done in figuring out how to arrange training and appropriate stipends for inductees into such a program and a need to design private-public partnerships that would usefully employ inductees to meet national needs. And thought should be given to the types and terms of post-service educational benefits to which every service member would have a claim. This educational benefit provision is crucially important because it would provide a solution to the current problem of unmanageably heavy student debt.


Presidential hopefuls should recognize that creative thinking along these lines could lead to a renewed sense of national purpose in America. The presidential debates should include a conversation about the benefits of national service.

William J. Byron is a Jesuit priest and professor of business and society at St. Joseph’s University. He is an Army veteran of World War II who received his college education through the G.I. Bill. He wrote this for The Philadelphia Inquirer.

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian


TODAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph.

▲88° ▼77°


TUESDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph.

▲88° ▼77°


WEDNESDAY



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲87° ▼77°


THURSDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲88° ▼77°

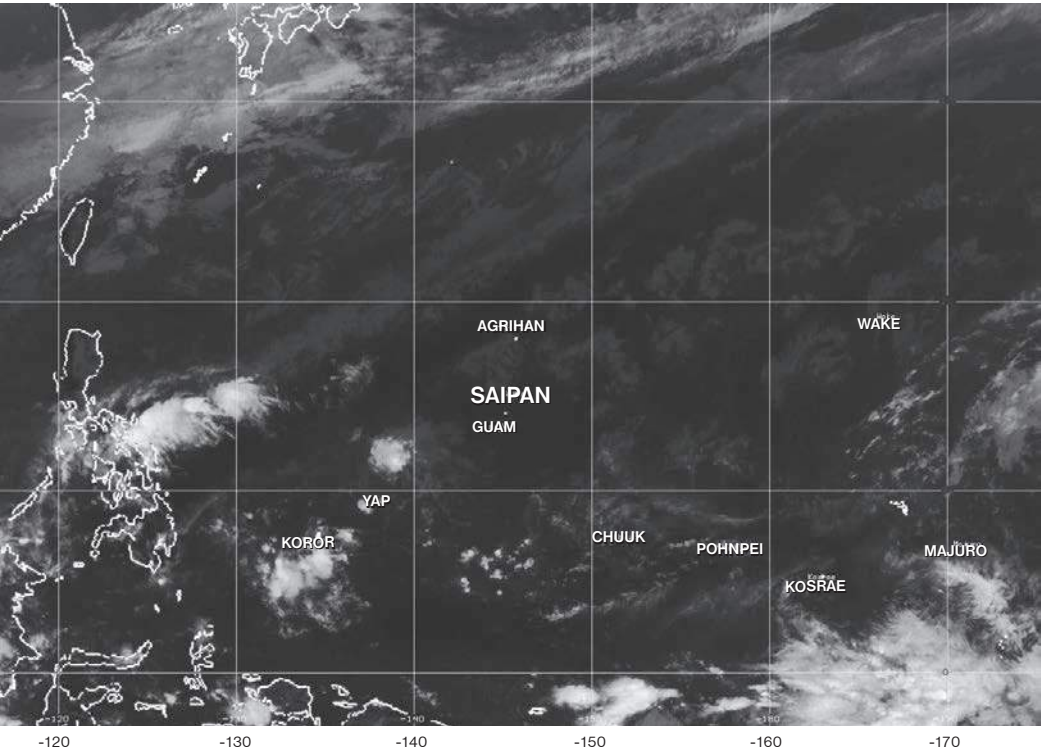
FRIDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲88° ▼77°

Yesterday's Satellite Image




PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2015
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A nearly stationary front stretches southwestward from 25N152E to beyond 130E at 14N. Cloudiness and patchy showers are present along and up to 250 miles north of this boundary. A few thunderstorms are seen near 130E. Trade-wind disturbances are generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms northeast of Yap within 100 miles of a line from 11N138E to 13N142E and near Koror between 4N and 7N from 132E to 136E. A near-equatorial trough stretches eastward from 1N130E to beyond the date line at 2N. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found south of Majuro and Kosrae south of a line from 3N160E to 3N170E to 1N175E. Trade-wind convergence is triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms northeast of Majuro east of a line from 22N176E to 11N171E and east of a line from 11N178E to 9N178E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Thundershowers	▲ 87	▼ 78
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲ 87	▼ 79
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲ 87	▼ 78
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	▲ 87	▼ 79
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲ 87	▼ 79
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	▲ 85	▼ 80
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲ 85	▼ 80

Around the Globe			
Auckland	Showers	▲ 73	▼ 61
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲ 33	▼ 24
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲ 78	▼ 71
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲ 82	▼ 73
London	Windy	▲ 55	▼ 44
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲ 66	▼ 42
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲ 90	▼ 76
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲ 89	▼ 57
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲ 80	▼ 73
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲ 51	▼ 37
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲ 62	▼ 47
Paris	Cloudy	▲ 56	▼ 52
Pusan	Sunny	▲ 58	▼ 39
Rome	Sunny	▲ 61	▼ 48
Salem	Sunny	▲ 44	▼ 26
San Francisco	Sunny	▲ 59	▼ 43
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲ 44	▼ 27
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲ 55	▼ 43
Washington, DC	Showers	▲ 50	▼ 40



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

■ Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone

■ *11 on any IT&E cellular phone

■ Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
4:34 AM	Today	Low Tide:	-0.3 Feet
11:40 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
5:29 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet
9:54 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset			
Today	6:26 AM	5:44 PM	
Tuesday	6:27 AM	5:45 PM	
Wednesday	6:27 AM	5:45 PM	
Thursday	6:28 AM	5:45 PM	
Friday	6:28 AM	5:45 PM	

Moonrise/Moonset			
Today	9:54 PM	10:03 AM	
Tuesday	10:46 PM	10:50 AM	
Wednesday	11:35 PM	11:34 AM	
Thursday		12:14 PM	
Friday	12:23 AM	12:53 PM	

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

NEWS DESK

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 17, 2015											
DEPARTURES						ARRIVALS					
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)						GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN					
UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily			UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily		
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily			UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily		
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota			UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7		
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6			UA2920	12:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota		
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily			UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily		
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily			UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily		
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)						GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)					
UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7			UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6		
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)						ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN					
UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7			UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6		
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)						NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN					
DL297	4:25pm	7:15pm	Daily			DL298	10:35am	3:15pm	Daily		
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)						SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN					
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1			7C3402	8:45am	2:15pm	3, 5, 6		
OZ626	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7			7C3402	9:30am	3:20pm	1, 2, 4, 7		
OZ628	3:50am	7:40am	Daily			OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7		
7C3403	4:35am	8:20am	1, 2, 3, 6, 7			OZ625	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6		
7C3403	5:25am	9:10am	4, 5			OZ627	9:30pm	2:50am+1	Daily		
7C3401	3:15pm	7:35pm	3, 5, 6			7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily		
7C3401	4:20pm	8:05pm	1, 2, 4, 7								
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)						BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN					
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7			OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6		
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)						SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN					
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7			3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7		
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)						BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN					
MU764	1:30am	5:30am	3, 5, 7			MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6		
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)						GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN					
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6			3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5		
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)						MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN					
OZ626/701	2:10am	11:15am	1 via ICN			UA190/2929	9:55am	9:20pm	2, 6, 7 via GUM		
OZ626/701	2:40am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			UA190/2929	10:00am	9:20pm	3 via GUM		
UA2924/191	4:15am	9:00am	3, 6 via GUM			OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN		
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
UA2924/183	4:15am	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM			OZ702/627	12:30pm	2:50am+1	Daily via ICN		
UA2924/183	4:15am	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA2922/183	8:40am	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM			UA184/2925	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA2922/183	8:40am	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			UA184/2921	10:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:30pm	5 via Rota-GUM			UA184/2920	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	1 via GUM-Rota		
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM			UA184/2927	10:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5038/183	2:20pm	9:30pm	2 via GUM			UA184/2929	10:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5038/183	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM			UA184/2925	11:59pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM		
UA5072/191	9:50pm	7:20am+1	1, 6 via GUM			UA184/2920	11:59pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota		
						UA184/2927	11:59pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM		
						UA184/2929	11:59pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM		
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)						HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN					
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN			OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN		
OZ626/721	2:40am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
OZ628/721	3:50am	12:50am	Daily via ICN			OZ724/627	2:20pm	2:50am+1	Daily via ICN		
UA2924/159	4:15am	10:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM			UA116/2925	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM		
UA2922/159	8:40am	10:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM			UA116/2921	10:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 6 via GUM		
UA2921/159	1:30pm	10:35pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM			UA116/2920	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota		
UA2920/159	2:20pm	10:35pm	3, 6 via GUM			UA116/2927	10:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM		
						UA116/2929	10:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM		

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.											
TINIAN TO SAIPAN				SAIPAN TO TINIAN				SAIPAN TO ROTA			
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY		DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY		DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat		7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily		7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat	
				8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily					
7											

Best Sunshine Live Grand Opening



Casino regulators and Best Sunshine CEO Mark Brown toast to good fortune at the opening of the casino. DENNIS B. CHAN



DENNIS B. CHAN
Commonwealth Casino Commission executive director Ed Deleon Guerrero, Saipan Mayor David Apatang, and Best Sunshine CEO Mark Brown pose for a photo as the Chinese lion dancers make their way in after a ribbon cutting ceremony.



DENNIS B. CHAN
Casino guests mingle among free-flowing champagne and appetizers.



FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
Refaluwasch dancers entertain the crowd during the opening of Best Sunshine Live on Friday night.



FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
Best Sunshine executives and guests mug for the camera during the grand opening of Best Sunshine Live on Friday night.



DENNIS B. CHAN
Casino guests do the chacha to the live music provided at the casino grand opening party.



DENNIS B. CHAN
Chinese lion dancers entertain the crowd.

Nation

Official says gunman made 'no more baby parts' comment

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (AP)—The man who police say staged a deadly shooting attack on a Planned Parenthood clinic that offers abortion services said “no more baby parts” after his arrest, a law enforcement official said Saturday.

The official could not elaborate about the comment by the 57-year-old suspect, Robert Lewis Dear. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because the official was not authorized to speak publicly about the ongoing investigation.

Planned Parenthood said late Saturday that witnesses said the gunman was motivated by his opposition to abortion.

Police, however, have not disclosed a motive for Friday's attack during which they say Dear stormed the Colorado Springs clinic, killing three people, including a police officer, before he surrendered to authorities.

The attack thrust the clinic to the center of the ongoing debate over Planned Parenthood, which was re-ignited in July when anti-abortion activists released undercover video they said showed the organization's personnel negotiating the sale of fetal organs.



Roy Kieffer pauses after laying flowers Saturday, Nov. 28, 2015, in honor of the victims of Friday's deadly shooting at a Planned Parenthood clinic in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Planned Parenthood has denied seeking any payments beyond legally permitted reimbursement costs for donating the organs to researchers. Still, the National Abortion Federation says it has since seen a rise

in threats at clinics nationwide.

The anti-abortion activists, part of a group called the Center for Medical Progress, denounced the “barbaric killing spree in Colorado Springs by a violent madman” and offered

prayers for the dead and wounded and for their families.

The facility provides women's health services and has long been the site of regular anti-abortion protests. A Roman Catholic priest who has

held weekly Mass in front of the clinic for 20 years said Dear wasn't part of his group.

“I don't know him from Adam,” said Rev. Bill Carmody. “I don't recognize him at all.”

Dear, who was in custody and is expected to make his first court appearance Monday, was described by neighbors as reclusive. They said he stashed food in the woods, avoided eye contact and warned neighbors about government spying.

At a vigil Saturday at All Souls Unitarian Church, Rev. Nori Rost called the gunman a “domestic terrorist.” In the back of the room, someone held a sign that said: “Women's bodies are not battlefields. Neither is our town.”

Vicki Cowart, the regional head of Planned Parenthood, drew a standing ovation when she walked to the pulpit. She promised to quickly reopen the clinic. “We will adapt. We will square our shoulders and we will go on,” she said.

After her remarks, a woman in the audience stood up, objected to the vigil becoming a “political statement” and left.

Cowart said the gunman “broke in” to the clinic Friday but didn't get past a locked door leading to the main part of the facility. She said there was no armed security when the shooting began. He later surrendered to police after an hours-long standoff.

In the parking lot of the two-story building, one man said the gunman shot at him as he pulled his car out, blasting two holes in his windshield. Inside, one worker ducked under a table and called her brother to tell him to take care of her kids if she was killed.

At one point, an officer whispered reports into his radio as he crept through the building. Others relayed information from surveillance cameras and victims in hiding. “We've got a report of a victim texting from just east of the lobby,” someone said.

Images, analysis released of Cleveland officer shooting boy

CLEVELAND (AP)—Prosecutors in Ohio on Saturday released a frame-by-frame analysis of the surveillance camera footage first made public a year ago that shows a white Cleveland police officer fatally shooting a black 12-year-old boy who had a pellet gun.

The additional images taken from surveillance video at a recreation center where Tamir Rice was shot and killed don't appear to contain any new or substantive information. The new footage was released in the “spirit of openness,” said Cuyahoga County Prosecutor Tim McGinty.

The analysis also doesn't show whether Tamir, as police

officials have maintained, was reaching into his waistband for the pellet gun when then-rookie patrolman Timothy Loehmann shot him less than two seconds after getting out of the car.

The enhancement by a video expert will be presented to a grand jury that will decide if Loehmann or his field training officer should be charged criminally for Tamir's death. Loehmann shot Tamir outside Cudell Recreation Center on Nov. 22, 2014.

Saturday's release of the enhancement comes the same day that attorneys for the boy's family asked the prosecutor to allow their use-of-force experts

to testify before the grand jury. The request follows the release of reports by use-of-force experts hired by prosecutors that concluded the shooting was justified because the officers had no way of knowing that Tamir's pellet gun wasn't a real firearm.

Loehmann and Frank Garmback were sent to a Cleveland recreation center after a man called 911 to report that a man was waving a gun and pointing it at people. The caller told the dispatcher that the gun might not be real. The call also said the man might be a juvenile, but that information wasn't passed on to the officers.

In a letter to Cuyahoga Coun-

ty Prosecutor Tim McGinty dated Friday, attorneys for the Rice family reiterated their demand that McGinty step aside and allow a special prosecutor to take over the case. The letter called the prosecutor's presentation to the grand jury “biased” and “improper” after the release of three expert reports that called the shooting justified. The grand jury began hearing evidence about the shooting five weeks ago.

The use-of-force experts hired by the Rice family “strenuously disagreed with the conclusions of your so-called experts who concluded the shooting of Tamir Rice was reasonable and justified,” the letter said.

Hamstrung by Congress, Obama tries to clinch climate pact

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama is trying to negotiate a legacy-making climate change pact this coming week in Paris with one hand tied behind his back. Congress can't even agree whether global warming is real.

Scientists point to the global agreement, years in the making, as the last, best hope for averting the worst effects of global warming. Obama has spent months prodding other countries to make ambitious carbon-cutting pledges to the agreement, which he hopes will become the framework for countries to tackle the climate issue long beyond the end of his presidency in early 2017.

But Republicans have tried

to undermine the president by sowing uncertainty about whether the U.S. will make good on its promises. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., and other GOP leaders have warned other countries not to trust any deal Obama may strike; other GOP allies are working to nullify Obama's emissions-cutting steps at home.

“Congress and more than half of the states have already made clear that he won't be speaking for us,” according to a McConnell opinion column posted on The Washington Post's website. He said it would be “irresponsible for an outgoing president to purport to sign the American people up” for a new climate agreement.

About 150 heads of state are set to join Obama for talks on Monday and Tuesday as the deal nears the finish line. The goal is to secure worldwide cuts to emissions of heat-trapping gases to limit the rise of global temperatures to about another 2 degrees from now.

With little room for error, leaders have tried to avoid the pitfalls that undercut global climate negotiations in the past—specifically, those in Kyoto, Japan, in the early 1990s and in Denmark during Obama's first term.

The deal in Kyoto—which the U.S. never ratified—spared developing countries such as China and India from mandatory emissions cuts, causing resentment in the U.S. and other

industrialized countries. The Paris agreement would be the first to involve all countries.

In Copenhagen in 2009, leaders managed only to produce a broad-strokes agreement that fell far short of intended goals.

The concept behind a Paris pact is that the 170 or so nations already have filed their plans. They would then promise to fulfill their commitments in a separate arrangement to avoid the need for ratification by the Republican-run Senate. That dual-level agreement could be considered part of a 1992 treaty already approved by the Senate, said Nigel Purvis, an environmental negotiator in the Clinton and George W. Bush administrations.

ACROSS THE NATION

More deaths blamed on wintry storm moving through central US

DALLAS (AP)—A slow-moving wintry storm system that has been blamed for more than a dozen deaths began moving eastward out of Texas on Saturday but kept coating some states to the north in ice, making driving dangerous. The band of storms that has been moving through parts of the Plains and the Midwest since Thursday has been blamed for at least 14 deaths, including eight in Texas and six in Kansas. A 70-year-old woman whose car was swept away by flash flooding Friday in Fort Worth remained missing Saturday. Although the icy conditions were expected to persist in parts of Oklahoma and Kansas through the end of Saturday, temperatures on Sunday were expected to be above freezing in the Texas and Oklahoma Panhandles, allowing the region to thaw out, the National Weather Service said.

Sheriff's deputies rescue newborn found buried near river

COMPTON, Calif. (AP)—Los Angeles County sheriff's officials asked for the public's help Saturday in gaining information about a newborn baby deputies rescued after finding her buried beside a popular Compton bike path. The girl was believed to be only 24 to 36 hours old when she was found Friday afternoon near a creek that flows into the Los Angeles River, said Sgt. Marvin Jaramilla of the Sheriff's Department's special victim unit. He said she was listed in stable condition on Saturday. “There's indication

that the child was born at a medical facility or a hospital,” he said. Jaramilla said two deputies found the girl around 4 p.m. after people on the bike path heard her cries and called authorities. “As they searched, deputies heard a baby's muffled cry and located a newborn baby girl buried alive under pieces of asphalt and rubble inside a crevice located along the bike path,” the sheriff's sergeant said in a statement.

In a donated dress, girl dubbed Baby Doe is buried

WINTHROP, Mass. (AP)—The 2-year-old girl known for months as Baby Doe after her remains were found in a plastic bag on a Boston Harbor beach was buried Saturday in a donated dress with a donated quilt. Bella Bond was laid to rest in Winthrop near her paternal great-grandmother after a private funeral. The girl's biological father, Joseph Amoroso, who never met her, kissed his hand and placed it on the coffin during the graveside service, The Boston Globe reported. Bella was buried with a donated quilt and four toys including a stuffed bear and dog, a funeral director told the Globe. Her body was dressed in a donated white lace dress. Bella's remains were found June 25. A composite image of the girl was shared by millions on social media before she was identified in September. Her mother's boyfriend, Michael McCarthy, has been charged with murder. Her mother, Rachele Bond, is charged with being an accessory. Both have pleaded not guilty.

Asia

PH gets 1st fighter jets in a decade amid sea feud

CLARK AIR BASE, Philippines (AP)—The Philippines on Saturday took delivery of two Korean-made fighter jets—the country's first supersonic combat aircraft in a decade—as it strengthens its underfunded military amid an escalating territorial feud with China.

The FA-50 jets touched down at Clark Freeport, a former U.S. Air Force base north of Manila, as Philippine defense officials applauded and fire trucks sprayed water as a traditional welcome salute for the still-unarmed aircraft.

The Philippines bought 12 FA-50s, which are primarily trainer jets that the military converted to also serve as multi-role combat aircraft, from Korea Aerospace Industries at a cost of 18.9 billion pesos (\$402 million). The other jets will be delivered in batches through 2017.

Weapons for the FA-50s, including bombs and rockets, will be purchased later.

"We're glad we're finally back to the supersonic age," Defense Secretary Voltaire Gazmin said.

The Philippine military decommissioned its last fleet of supersonic combat aircraft, the F-5, in 2005. A military modernization program that included plans for the purchase of at least a squadron of fighter jets and naval frigates didn't happen for several years largely because of a lack of funds.

Over the years, the military has deteriorated to become one of Asia's weakest.

Under current President Benigno Aquino III, however, territorial spats with China over islands in the South China Sea have escalated and resulted in the Chinese seizure of a disputed shoal in 2012, prompting the military to scramble to acquire new navy ships and air force planes with the help of the United States, the Philippines' longtime defense treaty ally.



AP
One of two newly-acquired FA-50PH fighter jets is given a water cannon salute while taxiing on the runway upon landing Saturday, Nov. 28, 2015 at Clark Air Base in Pampanga province, north of Manila, Philippines.

sonic aircraft our reaction time will be faster," Pena told reporters.

Still, the Philippines has ruled out a military solution to the territorial conflicts with its limited defense capabilities. In January 2013, the Philippines brought its disputes with China to international arbitration, but Beijing refused to participate and pressed for one-on-one negotiations.

An international tribunal in The Hague, however, dismissed China's legal arguments last month and ruled that it has authority to hear the Philippines' case. It said it expects to hand down a decision next year on several issues raised by the Philippines, including the validity of China's sweeping territorial claims under the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

Radical Islamist groups claim deadly attacks in Bangladesh

Bangladesh has been rocked this year by a series of deadly attacks claimed by radical Islamist groups, raising concerns about growing extremism in the mostly Sunni Muslim nation. Following is a list of the attacks.

■ Feb 27: At least two assailants attack Bangladeshi-American blogger and writer Avijit Roy with meat cleavers, killing him and injuring his wife on a crowded street in Dhaka, the capital. A previously unknown group, Ansar Bangla 7, which intelligence officials believe is part of the banned Ansarullah Bangla Team, claims responsibility. At least four suspects are arrested.

■ March 30: Three men use meat cleavers to hack 26-year-old blogger Washiqur Rahman Babu to death in Dhaka. Bystanders chase down two of the attackers, but a third escapes. The captured suspects say they are students at Islamic schools and were ordered to commit the crime. Police have been unable to determine who gave the order.

■ May 12: Four men with meat cleavers kill online atheist activist and science magazine editor Ananta Bijoy Das as he leaves his home in the north-eastern city of Sylhet. Police arrest a newspaper photographer and two others. Al-Qaida on the Indian subcontinent, which is believed to be affiliated with Ansarullah Bangla Team, claims responsibility.

■ Aug. 8: A fourth blogger, Niloy Chottopadhyay, is killed by men who enter his Dhaka apartment, posing as potential tenants, and assault him with

cleavers. Ansarullah Bangla Team claims responsibility in an email, though the authenticity of the message has not been confirmed.

■ Sept. 28: Three assailants on a motorcycle gun down Italian citizen Cesare Tavella in Dhaka's diplomatic quarter. The Sunni extremist group Islamic State claims responsibility, according to the terror monitoring group SITE. Officials reject the claim and accuse local Islamist groups of attempting to destabilize the country. A month later, police arrest four suspects who say they were hired by "a big brother" to attack "a white man" to create chaos in the country, according to authorities.

■ Oct. 4: Masked assailants on a motorcycle kill Japanese citizen Kunio Hoshi, who was working in agriculture in northern Bangladesh. The Islamic State group claims responsibility, but the government again dismisses the idea that the group has any presence in the country.

■ Oct. 24: Attackers hurl homemade bombs into a crowd of thousands of Shiite Muslims as they gather for a predawn religious procession in Dhaka. A teenage boy is killed and more than 100 other people are injured. Police arrest two suspects and recover two unexploded bombs. They dismiss an IS claim of responsibility and say the culprits were likely from the banned local group Jumatul Mujahideen Bangladesh. On Nov. 26, security forces arrest six suspects after a gunfight that killed the group's alleged military commander

Last week, Aquino authorized Gazmin to enter into major contracts to acquire 44 billion pesos (\$936 million) worth of military hardware, including two frigates, anti-submarine helicopters and amphibious assault vehicles for the navy, and long-range patrol aircraft, munitions for the

FA-50s and surveillance radar for the air force, Defense Undersecretary Fernando Manalo said.

The new ships, aircraft and military equipment were expected to be purchased from this year up to 2018, according to Manalo.

Lt. Col. Rolando Condrad Pena III, one of three Filipino air force pilots who received training in Korea to fly the FA-50s, said that the jets could carry enough munitions payload and could be used in air-to-air and air-to-ground combat.

"Now that we have a super-

Notorious warlord seeks comeback, leverage in Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—After more than 40 years at war, one of Afghanistan's most notorious warlords, designated a "global terrorist" by the United States and blacklisted by the United Nations along with Osama bin Laden, wants to come out of the shadows.

Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, now in his late 60s, says he wants a "real and fair peace" but with conditions the Kabul government is unlikely to even contemplate, such as the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Afghanistan and new elections in 2016.

The remarks reflect Hekma-

tyar's attempt to assert influence and gain new leverage in Afghan politics, but what role—if any—the once feared warlord could play is unclear.

"Peace can be established and the fighting can end once the occupation is over, foreign forces leave and the people of the Afghan nation are given the right to choose their own destiny and establish their own choice of government and governance," Hekmatyar said.

The comments were provided to The Associated Press this week after being videotaped in Hekmatyar's hiding place, presumed to be somewhere in Pak-

istan, where he moved to after being ejected from Iran following the 2001 U.S.-led invasion of Afghanistan that removed the Taliban from power. His associates insist, however, that the warlord is in Afghanistan.

Hekmatyar has led an extreme life; his mujahedeen followers have been responsible for the deaths of thousands during the devastating Afghan civil war.

In his student days, he was known for throwing acid in the faces of women who did not cover up. He switched allegiances on the battlefields, fighting first the Soviets, for

which he received millions in cash and weaponry from Washington, then the Taliban.

In politics, he espoused radical Islam, served twice as Afghan prime minister and saw Hezb-i-Islami, the party he founded in 1969, fracture and abandon him. The party's military wing offered bin Laden shelter after the al-Qaida leader fled Sudan in 1996, according to the State Department.

But history has relegated Hekmatyar to the sidelines and political analyst Haroun Mir describes him today as a "spent force, frozen in time."

ASIAN BRIEFS

PH website to seek tips on missing Marcos paintings

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine government will launch a website to crowd-source tips on the whereabouts of some 200 missing art works, including paintings by Van Gogh, Picasso, and Rembrandt that were owned by former first lady Imelda Marcos, an official said Friday. The family of late dictator Ferdinand Marcos allegedly amassed billions of dollars' worth of ill-gotten wealth. His widow, now 86 and a member of Congress, became notorious for excesses, symbolized by her huge shoe collection and staggering jewelry collection. Experts from Christie's and Sotheby's auction

houses are concluding Friday a week-long appraisal of jewelry seized after the family fled to Hawaii in 1986, following a popular revolt that ended Marcos' two-decade rule. Andrew de Castro, a member of the Presidential Commission on Good Government, which is tasked with recovering the ill-gotten wealth, said that the agency would launch a website in a week or two to seek public assistance in locating at least 200 paintings.

Maldives opposition to regroup for 2nd night of protests

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP)—The Maldives opposition has vowed to regroup for a second night of demonstrations hours after police broke

up a planned 72-hour protest demanding the release of the country's ex-president and other political leaders. Maldivian Democratic Party spokesman Hamid Abdul Gaffoor said Saturday the party is within its legal rights to continue protests because police have unilaterally withdrawn from agreed terms. The party demands the release from jail of former President Mohamed Nasheed, former Defense Minister Mohamed Nazim and opposition leader Sheik Imran Abdulla, and the withdrawal of court action against 1,700 political activists.

Suicide attack aimed at Afghan official kills guard

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—

Afghanistan's election commission says one of its officials escaped unharmed after a suicide bomber targeted his vehicle in the capital, Kabul, killing his bodyguard and wounding his driver. The Independent Election Commission of Afghanistan identified the target of Saturday's attack as Hawliya Rodwal, its Kabul provincial director. Commission spokesman Noor Mohammad Noor says one of Rodwal's security guards was killed and his driver was wounded. He says a number of homes were damaged in the attack, which took place in a residential neighborhood. No one has claimed responsibility for the attack. The Taliban are opposed to elections and have targeted the commission in the past.

World

Putin orders sanctions against Turkey after downing of jet

ANKARA, Turkey (AP)—Russian President Vladimir Putin on Saturday called for sanctions against Turkey, following the downing this week by Turkey of a Russian warplane.

The decree published on the Kremlin's website Saturday came hours after Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan had voiced regret over the incident, saying his country was "truly saddened" by the event and wished it hadn't occurred.

It includes a ban on some goods and forbids extensions of labor contracts for Turks working in Russia as of Jan. 1. It doesn't specify what goods are to be banned or give other details, but it also calls for ending chartered flights from Russia to Turkey and for Russian tourism companies to stop selling vacation packages that would include a stay in Turkey.

Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev earlier in the week had ordered his cabinet to develop a list of goods to be sanctioned.

Putin's decree also calls for ending visa-free travel between Russia and Turkey and orders the tightening of control over Turkish air carriers in Russia "for security reasons." The decree was issued "to protect Rus-



AP
Turkish army tanks are stationed at a train station after their arrival from western Turkey, in Gaziantep, Turkey, Friday, Nov. 27, 2015.

sian citizens from crimes," a Kremlin statement said.

Erdogan's expression of regret Saturday was the first since Tuesday's incident in which Turkish F-16 jets shot down the Russian jet on grounds that it had violated Turkey's airspace despite repeated warnings to change course. It was the first time in half a century that a NATO member shot down a Russian plane and drew a harsh response from Moscow.

"We are truly saddened by this incident," Erdogan said. "We wish it hadn't happened as such, but unfortunately such a thing has happened. I hope that something like this doesn't occur again."

Addressing supporters in the western city of Balikesir, Erdogan said neither country should allow the incident to escalate and take a destructive form that would lead to "saddening consequences."

He renewed a call for a meet-

ing with Putin on the sidelines of a climate conference in Paris next week, saying it would be an opportunity to overcome tensions.

Erdogan's friendly overture however, came after he again vigorously defended Turkey's action and criticized Russia for its operations in Syria.

"If we allow our sovereign rights to be violated ... then the territory would no longer be our territory," Erdogan said.

Turkish Prime Minister Ahmet

Davutoglu also said he hoped a meeting between Erdogan and Putin would take place in Paris.

"In such situations it is important to keep the channels of communication open," he said.

Putin has denounced the Turkish action as a "treacherous stab in the back," and has insisted that the plane was downed over Syrian territory in violation of

international law. He has also refused to take telephone calls from Erdogan. Putin's foreign affairs adviser, Yuri Ushakov, said Friday that the Kremlin had received Erdogan's request for a meeting, but wouldn't say whether such a meeting is possible.

Asked why Putin hasn't picked up the phone to respond to Erdogan's two phone calls, he said that "we have seen that the Turkish side hasn't been ready to offer an elementary apology over the plane incident."

After the incident, Russia deployed long-range S-400 air defense missile systems to a Russian air base in Syria just 50 kilometers (30 miles) south of the border with Turkey to help protect Russian warplanes, and the Russian military warned it would shoot down any aerial target that would pose a potential threat to its planes.

Hollande, activists gear up for critical climate talks

PARIS (AP)—French President Francois Hollande met with environmental groups Saturday, pushing for an ambitious global deal to reduce man-made emissions blamed for global warming—with emphasis on helping developing countries adapt to a changing world.

The talks in the Elysee Palace came as President Barack Obama, the leaders of China, Russia and more than 140 other countries prepare to converge on Paris to launch two weeks of high-stakes talks.

Leaders and climate negotiators from 196 countries meeting at the U.N. talks Nov. 30-Dec. 11 will try to hash out the broad-

est, most lasting deal to date to slow global warming.

Saturday's meeting and the talks are taking place under extra-high security after Islamic extremists killed 130 people in Paris on Nov. 13.

Security was already planned to be tight even before the attacks, given the throng of government leaders attending.

French Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve said Saturday that just under a thousand people thought to pose security risks have been banned from entering the country since tighter border controls were enforced earlier this month in the run-up to the COP21 climate talks and

in the wake of France's deadliest attacks in recent memory.

Later Saturday, French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius symbolically handed over the "keys" to the climate conference to the U.N. climate change agency, which will oversee the two-week talks. Fabius and Hollande have traveled the world this year and used France's diplomatic weight to try to rally international support for a tough and binding deal.

"The keys to the (conference) are now in the hands of the U.N., a symbolic key of hope," Fabius tweeted after handing over a giant key to Christiana Figueres, head of

the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Figueres, speaking at a joint news conference, evoked a moral, economic and technological imperative "to act now on climate change."

"On the 11 of December (when the conference closes) I want to be able to pronounce six simple words that will be the outcome of unprecedented efforts," Fabius said: "The Paris agreement has been approved."

The last global climate treaty, the 1997 Kyoto Protocol, required only rich countries to reduce emissions and the U.S., the world's biggest emitter, didn't take part.

Migrants clash with Macedonian police on Greek border

IDOMENI, Greece (AP)—Migrants on the Greek-Macedonian border attacked police with stones Saturday, enraged by the sight of Macedonian authorities erecting a fence along the border and an accident that injured a young Moroccan man.

Authorities said 18 Macedonian officers were injured in the brief but intense clashes. Most of them received minor injuries but two were hospitalized in the nearby town of Gevgelija, Macedonia's Interior Ministry said.

There was no official tally of injured migrants, although Macedonian police targeted them with stun grenades and plastic bullets. Doctors from the

Red Cross and other non-governmental organizations said they treated 20 people for head injuries and breathing problems.

The accidental electrocution at the top of a train carriage of a 24-year-old Moroccan, who suffered severe burns, sparked the unrest among the migrants, many of whom have been stranded at the border since Macedonia decided earlier this month, along with Serbia, Croatia and Slovenia, to let through only those from the "warzone" countries of Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria.

More than 600,000 refugees and other migrants from the Middle East, Africa and Asia have entered Europe through Greece

this year, many after making the short sea crossing from Turkey. Most of them continue on a long trek through the Balkans toward the promised lands of central and northern Europe.

The 24-year-old is in a serious condition, with extensive burns, Greek police said, and has been transferred to a hospital in the city of Thessaloniki, 80 kilometers (50 miles) south of the border.

The man's Moroccan compatriots formed the bulk of the about 250 people who started throwing stones at Macedonian police. Also among the 800 who are stuck at the border are citizens of Algeria, Tunisia, Lebanon, Yemen, Iran,

Pakistan, Bangladesh, Somalia and Congo.

Greek police didn't intervene to stop the migrants but did, at one point interpose themselves to protect their Macedonian colleagues, as the migrants would not target the Greeks.

The clash ended in less than an hour when other migrants intervened, holding white clothing as a sign of peace.

Macedonian government spokesman Aleksandar Gjorgjiev told The Associated Press that the country has started to erect a fence on its southern border with Greece in order to prevent illegal crossings and to channel the flow of migrants through the official checkpoint.

Pope heads to Central African Republic with peace message

KAMPALA, Uganda (AP)—Pope Francis travels Sunday to Central African Republic, making the final stop of his first trip to Africa in a country where violence between Christian and Muslim militants has forced nearly 1 million from their homes over the last two years and created a divided capital.

The precarious security situation in the capital of Bangui had raised the possibility in recent weeks that the pope could cancel his visit. Less than a year ago, mobs were beating Muslims to death in the streets, even decapitating and dismembering their victims. While sectarian clashes have left at least 100 people dead over the last two months, recent days have been relatively free of gunfire.

Many hope that the pope's message of peace and reconciliation can usher in a longer-term stability in a nation of 4.8 million. As part of his trip, the pope plans to visit a displacement camp where Christians have sought refuge. He also will venture into the capital's Muslim enclave, known as PK5, to meet with community leaders and the displaced.

President Catherine Samba-Panza told reporters Saturday that the pope is being awaited as a "peace messenger."

"Many Central Africans hope that the messages he will deliver will inspire a national mobilization and realization that Central

Africans learn to accept each other again, learn to live together again and learn to go toward peace and reconstruction of their country," she said.

At the displacement camp at Bangui's airport, where thousands have lived for nearly two years, there is a sense that things now are the worst they've been since December 2013. Sandrine Sanze and her family are now back for a second time after the recent clashes, having initially spent nine months there.

"It is our prayer that with the pope's visit that peace will return, we can go home and life can start anew," she said, as she sat on the ground outside her home made of scrap metal that she and her husband dragged to the site.

The situation remains tense and fragile: Bangui's archbishop travels into the city's Muslim enclave under escort from armed peacekeepers. The city of Bangui has long been under a nightly curfew of 8 p.m. as gun battles have rung out after dark in the flashpoint neighborhoods.

The United Nations sought to assure the Vatican that security was under control on the eve of the pope's arrival. The head of the U.N. operation, Parfait Onanga-Anyanga, told Vatican Radio that U.N. peacekeepers and French troops were confident that they could keep the pope and his entourage safe.

Focus

In S. Korea, a town of Kims—and an unusual shared history



In this Oct. 14, 2015, Kim Sun Won points at his family's genealogical books that he says show he is a direct descendant of renowned 17th Century Confucian scholar Kim Jang-saeng in Nonsan, South Korea. Historic clan villages keep centuries-old genealogical books that they say have been handed down from generation to generation. The Hwangs in Paju have a two-volume book written in 1723; the Yun family in Paju keeps woodblocks used to publish its family tree from 1630 to 1863; and Kim Sun Won has a modern version of genealogical books at his home.

By **HYUNG-JIN KIM**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NONSAN, South Korea (AP)—Many of his students are Kims. So are his fellow teachers, an elementary school alumnus and the owners of restaurants and pubs that he patronizes in his small farming village. Lots of Kims in his neighborhood, too. Such is everyday life for Kim Sun Won, who, obviously, is a Kim too.

He's lived all his 70 years in a tile-roofed home in a clan village, surrounded by people who share his connection to an illustrious ancestor from centuries ago. Other clan villages in South Korea are dominated by Hwangs, Yuns and many other names.

"This is the house where my father, grandfather, great-grandfather and great-great-grandfather lived," Kim said, walking down a small hill dotted with his ancestors' tombs and grave-stones. "I've never wanted to abandon my hometown."

Modernization is turning the villages into a fading tradition. Dozens with at least 100 clan members remain, but there were once hundreds. The others have been lost to the frenzy of construction across much of the country, and to young people leaving small-town life for bigger opportunities in Asia's fourth-largest economy. Ancestry does not have the pull it once did for some, perhaps because some Koreans generations ago gained their prestigious surnames by buying them, not

through birth.

For Kim, however, ancient family ties remain as tangible as the large earthen tombs behind his house.

As a direct descendant of 17th-century Confucian scholar Kim Jang-saeng, the 70-year-old holds about 15 memorial services per year for his ancestors at his home, a responsibility he calls his "destiny."

"I don't mind living near the tombs," said Kim Sun Won, a retired local civil servant in the city of Nonsan who now teaches filial piety, the life of Kim Jang-saeng and local history at a traditional Confucian school. "I feel secure here because I have the support of all my family clan members here."

Clan villages thrived under Confucian, traditional value systems that prize family connections, filial duty, respect for ancestors and regional ties.

In Kim's Yeonsan village there are now about 130 households associated with his family clan, but there are many more non-Kim households. A generation ago, Kim said there were about up to 300 clan households, mostly extended families.

Clan villages are usually made up of people who share prominent ancestors: royal princes, top officials, revered scholars. The villages preserve ancestral shrines and regularly hold memorial services by burning incense, offering food and liquor at altars and deeply bowing.

In Paju, a city near the North Korean border, two villages are home to

dozens of people with the surname Hwang who claim as an ancestor Hwang Hui, a 15th-century prime minister renowned for his moral integrity and righteousness.

"He's like our religion," said Hwang You Yeon, a 69-year-old resident in one of the two villages where Hwang Hui spent most of his post-retirement years. "He's our pride."

Last spring, the Hwangs made headlines when they confronted a ruling-party lawmaker who alleged Hwang Hui took bribes and committed adultery. The lawmaker apologized after the Hwangs threatened to campaign against him.

These days, it's largely the elderly who live in villages associated with their clans. Young people migrate to cities, and while some eventually return, others with different surnames have moved in too. In some cases high-rise apartments have changed the character of once-rural villages.

In a nearby Paju village, seven out of 10 households were once associated with a Yun family. Now the number is about three in 10.

"In those times, there was less individual action. Young people today are spoiled. Aren't they?" said Yun Hoon Duk, a resident in the Yun village. "We had grown up with our grandfathers, uncles and nephews ... so we naturally learned the rules of etiquette."

The clan clusters reveal a fascinating feature of South Korea, where a handful of surnames far outweighs the rest in popularity. More than 20 percent of the country's 50 million people are Kims, from two former South Korean presidents to the South's only Olympic figure skating gold medalist.

All Kims do not belong to the same clan. They are divided among about 350 "bongwans" that are associated with particular locations. Kim Sun Won, for instance, is a Gwangsan Kim, named after a southern town where his first ancestor is believed to have settled. Government surveys in 2000, the most recent census data available, showed there were 286 South Korean surnames and 4,179 bongwans.

The dominance of a few surnames is closely linked to Korea's feudal and Confucian history and the legacy of Japan's colonization of the Korean Peninsula from 1910-1945.

Surnames were usually reserved for nobility and royalty until the 18th century, when some bankrupt aristocrats allowed commoners to be added to their genealogical books, called "jokbo," in return for money.

There are no official records on how many commoners got surnames, but it's believed to be significant because rampant poverty and the lack of efficient state surveillance systems made the forgery of jokbos widespread.

During the Joseon Dynasty, which ruled from 1392 to 1910, the aristocracy grew from less than 10 percent of the population to as much as 70 percent, in large part because of forged jokbos, said Park HongGab, an expert on Korean surnames at the state-run National Institute of Korean History.

When Japan colonized the Korean Peninsula in the early 20th century, it forced every Korean to have a surname. Slaves took their masters' surnames and the poor often picked ones used by high-level aristocrats: Kim, Lee and Park.

"There were slaves, many slaves in

the past. But now there's no one who says they are the descendant of slaves," said Kim Jin Woo, a specialist on Korean surnames. "This is why many people don't trust jokbos."

Those who want a prominent lineage can still hire jokbo brokers to fabricate genealogical books. The forgery of the books is linked to Korea's traditional reverence for family background, which has long determined business, social and marital success. More prominent ancestors boost status.

Some records, however, would be quite difficult to fake. Historic clan villages keep centuries-old genealogical books that they say have been handed down from generation to generation. The Hwangs in Paju have a two-volume book written in 1723; the Yun family in Paju keeps woodblocks used to publish its family tree from 1630 to 1863; and Kim Sun Won has a modern version of genealogical books at his home.

The role of ancestral ties in North Korean life is minimal compared to that in the South, though the countries share similar surnames. The North, founded as a socialist republic, has tried to abolish clan systems it calls the legacy of feudalism.

Even so, the system's legacy remains. During a landmark 2000 summit between then-South Korean President Kim Dae-jung and then-North Korean leader Kim Jong Il - father of current leader Kim Jong Un—the two Kims joked about their shared surname but different clans.

"We're really from the same family and we've finally met each other," Kim Jong Il was quoted as saying in North Korean state media.



In this Oct. 13, 2015 photo, Hwang You Yeon, left, points at his family's two-volume genealogical book written in 1723 at a museum commemorating one of his prominent ancestors in Paju, South Korea.

Health & Fitness

Lawmakers: Agency not doing enough against dengue fever

HONOLULU (AP)—Hawaii state Sen. Russell Ruderman worries whenever there's a mosquito buzzing in his home.

Until recently, he didn't give the common pests much thought, but now his wife is six months pregnant and there's a growing dengue fever outbreak on the Big Island, where they live.

"It could threaten her pregnancy, as well as her health," he said of the mosquito-borne illness.

The state Department of Health says there were 107 confirmed cases of dengue fever on the Big Island as of Thursday.

It says it's working with the county to spray 155 properties, including schools, and has started an outreach program to educate people about the illness.

In addition, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is sending an entomologist and a technician to the Big Island next week to further assess the situation.

However, Ruderman and other Big Island lawmakers say the department is downplaying the problem.

"They are not warning people appropriately," said state Rep. Richard Creagan, a non-

practicing physician. "It's not a little outbreak now. It's a big outbreak."

Creagan said he wants state health officials to encourage voluntary isolation of people who are infected, be more aggressive about trapping mosquitoes, and warn pregnant women who could suffer complications.

Symptoms of dengue fever include high fever, headache, nausea, muscle aches, bone and joint pain and rash. There's no specific treatment, but bed rest and acetaminophen for fever and pain are recommended. Symptoms usually go away completely within 2 weeks.

The illness is not endemic to Hawaii but can be spread by mosquitoes that bite infected travelers from endemic areas.

Dr. Lyle Petersen, the director of the CDC's Division of Vector-Borne Diseases who will be on the island next week, previously said the outbreak isn't huge compared to other parts of the world.

"The level of alarm is a little higher than it needs to be," added state Health Director Dr. Ginny Pressler. "We're trying to raise awareness. We're not trying to raise fear."

The department received an

emergency appropriation of up to \$75,000 to hire public relations firm Bennet Group Strategic Communications to help with communications efforts. The firm created the department's "Fight the Bite" campaign to educate people about ways to control mosquitoes.

The same company was hired to help with a 2001 outbreak that lasted more than eight months, with 92 cases on Maui, 26 on Oahu and four on Kauai.

"Why don't they spend one-tenth of that PR money on medical response?" Ruderman asked. "Don't worry, they're telling us, but there's no one here on the Big Island who isn't worrying."

Stores are selling lots of bug spray, but residents generally aren't changing their attire in light of the outbreak. Many are still wearing shorts and T-shirts instead of long sleeves and pants, as health officials recommend.

There's concern the outbreak will hurt the tourism industry, but officials say they have not seen significant visitor cancellations.

At the Sheraton Kona Resort & Spa at Keauhou Bay, grounds maintenance and

landscape workers are taking extra measures to clear standing water that can serve as mosquito-breeding areas, said spokeswoman Katie Vanes.

"Our associates are prepared to speak with concerned guests,

but we have not received a significant or frequent amount of inquiries," she said.

Kirstin Kahaloa, executive director of the Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce, hopes tourists aren't nervous about

visiting the Big Island.

"It's still a safe place to visit as long as you're following CDC recommendations to be careful," she said. "We're here and we're OK. We're taking precautions."

UNICEF: AIDS leading cause of death for African teenagers



Mani Djelassem, a 17-year-old activist who was born HIV-positive, speaks at a United Nations' agency for children (UNICEF) news conference in Johannesburg, Friday, Nov. 27, 2015. AP

JOHANNESBURG (AP)—While the global push to eradicate HIV may have saved over a million babies, AIDS is now the leading cause of death for African teenagers and the second most common killer for adolescents across the globe, the United Nations' agency for children said on Friday.

Despite gains made among adults and babies with HIV, the number of 10-to-19-year-olds dying from AIDS-related diseases has tripled since 2000, UNICEF said, launching the global data at a press conference in South Africa.

"We've collectively dropped the ball in the second decade of childhood," said Craig McClure, the chief of UNICEF's

HIV and AIDS division.

Children born with the virus were dying in their teens because there was not enough treatment aimed at adolescents, McClure said. Only a third of the 2.6 million children infected with HIV were on treatment.

Teenagers born without the disease are also vulnerable, and infections rates among those aged 15 to 19 now add up to 26 new infections every hour with 70 percent of those infected girls.

Women are biologically more susceptible to HIV infection, but behind that statistic are social factors like illiteracy and child marriage, said McClure.

While 60 percent of adolescent infections occur in sub-

Saharan Africa—with South Africa leading, followed by Nigeria—countries like the United States, India, Indonesia and Brazil also showed a worrying rate of infection among teenagers.

Mani Djelassem, a 17-year-old activist from Chad who for the last four years has been speaking about living with HIV, said affected teenagers have not been properly taught about the virus or the medication to treat it.

"I was infected at birth. What was my fault in this? Is it something I should be ashamed of?" asked the soft spoken teenager, sporting purple highlighted hair. She said no one was talking to teenagers about AIDS so she was speaking out.

Air pollution in Beijing hits hazardous levels

BEIJING (AP)—Air pollution in Beijing reached hazardous levels on Saturday as smog engulfed large parts of China despite efforts to clean up the foul air.

At noon, the U.S. Embassy in Beijing reported the level of the poisonous, tiny particles of PM2.5 at 391 micrograms per cubic meter. The World Health Organization considers the safe level at 25 micrograms per cubic meter of the particulates.

The city has been shrouded in gray smog since Friday, reduc-

ing visibility to a few hundred meters (yards).

The Ministry of Environmental Protection has forecast severe pollution for the greater Beijing region, the western part of Shandong province and the northern part of Henan province until Tuesday, when strong winds from the north are expected to blow away air pollutants.

The ministry has advised people to stay indoors.

Authorities blame coal burning for winter heating as a major

culprit for the air pollution. The ministry said it had sent teams to check on illegal emissions by factories in several northern Chinese cities.

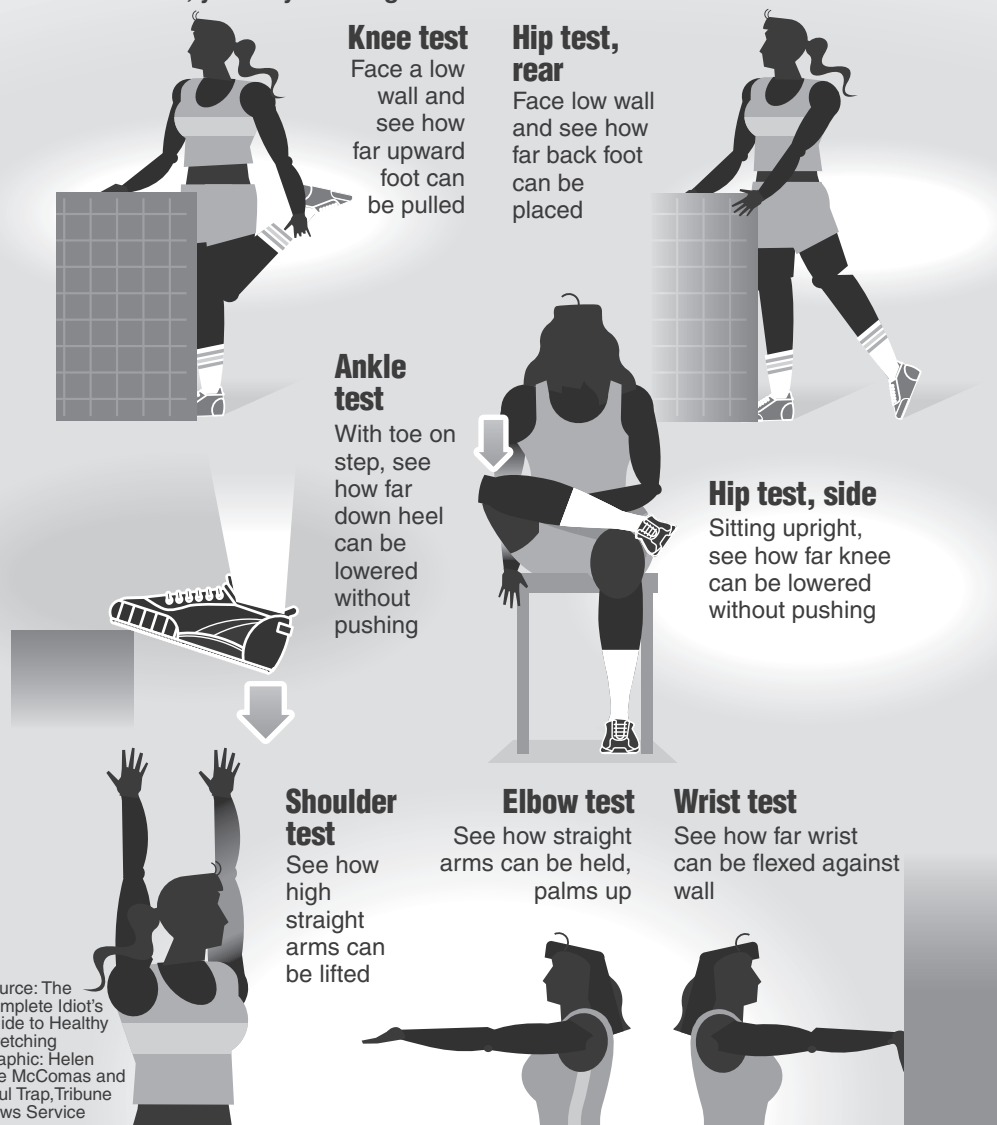
In the past, authorities have shut down factories and pulled half of the vehicles off the roads to curb pollution. But such drastic measures are disruptive and are used only when the government feels it needs to present a better image to the world, such as when China hosts major global events or leaders.

Personal Trainer

Some easy flexibility tests

These tests can be used to monitor improvement when working to improve your flexibility or to judge how well a particular exercise works.

Test both sides; you may have significant difference between sides



Source: The Complete Idiot's Guide to Healthy Stretching
Graphic: Helen Lee McComas and Paul Trap, Tribune News Service

Life & Style

30 years after art heist, museum hopes to get piece back

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP)—An empty wooden frame once occupied by Willem de Kooning's "Woman-Ochre" sits at the center of a gallery at the University of Arizona's Museum of Art in Tucson.

Next to it are the composite

drawings of two people police say stole the painting the day after Thanksgiving in 1985. The museum wants to remind visitors of the heist in hopes that a new lead in the 30-year unsolved mystery will appear.

"We have not given up hope

about getting the painting back," Gina Compitello-Moore, the museum's marketing director, said. "By not having it, it's almost as if a member of our family is missing."

The painting by the abstract expressionist was stolen on Nov. 29, 1985 from the small museum that also has works by Jackson Pollock and Georgia O'Keeffe.

The museum had just opened when a man and a woman walked in. They were the sole visitors. The woman, described as being in her mid-50s with shoulder-length reddish and

blond hair, distracted the a security guard by making small-talk while the man, who appeared to be in his 20s and wore a mustache and glasses, cut the painting from the large frame, leaving the edges of the canvass attached. Within minutes, they were gone, taking with them one of the museum's most important pieces. The painting was valued at about \$600,000 when it was stolen.

"We have no idea why this particular painting was stolen. It could have been the size of the work. It could have been that this is probably his most

recognized work," Compitello-Moore said.

Brian Seastone, the university's police chief, was an officer back then who helped investigate the heist. He says the department, along with the FBI and other agencies working the theft, received a number of tips that led them nowhere.

"The gentleman pretty much knew what he wanted, it appeared, and went upstairs. And after a few minutes they both left very quickly and it drew the attention of the security officer who was there," Seastone said. "Since then, it's kind of become

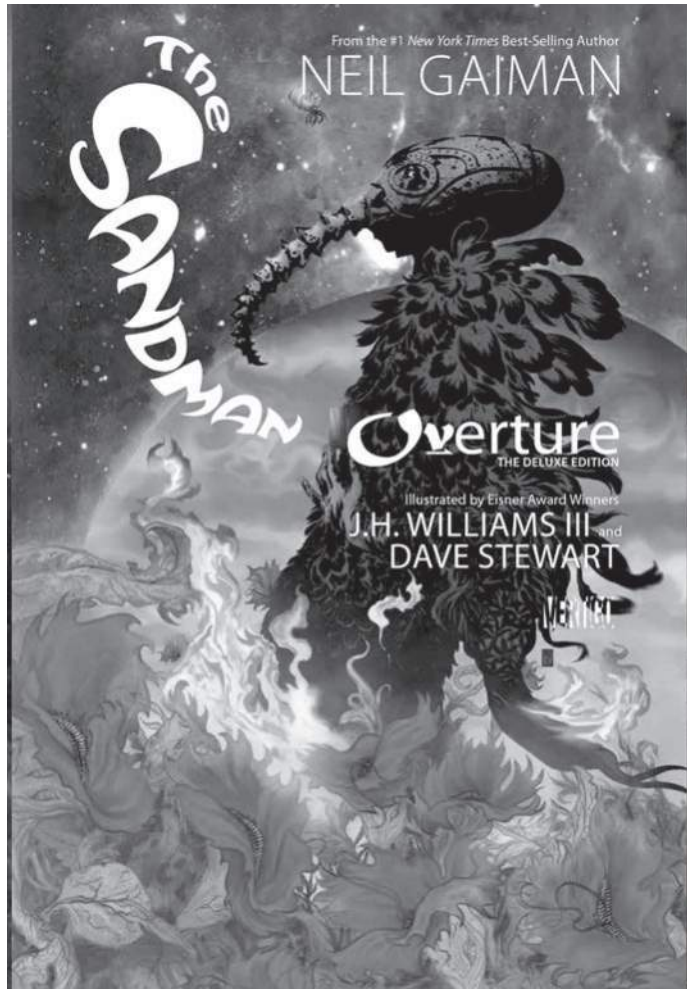
not a legend but one of those things that's out there that people will talk about once in a while."

Seastone says the man's mustache and glasses may have been fake, an effort to disguise himself, and that the woman also may have been in costume.

Compitello-Moore said now is a good time to bring attention to the stolen painting because it could have changed hands by now, and its owner could not know they have a stolen piece.

"We're happy to have to have the frame in there but we of course wish it were the painting," she said.

Neil Gaiman returns to comics with new 'Sandman: Overture'



This photo provided by DC Entertainment shows the cover of Vertigo's "The Sandman: Overture Deluxe Edition," written by Neil Gaiman with art by J.H. Williams III.

By **JESSE J. HOLLAND**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Neil Gaiman is one of the world's beloved writers and could probably work on any project he wants. And what he wanted to do is go back to his roots in the comic book world.

That's how Gaiman ended up writing "The Sandman: Overture," for DC Entertainment's Vertigo. It was recently released as part of a deluxe edition.

"The idea of celebrating the 25th anniversary of 'Sandman' with a comic was just too good to miss," Gaiman said in an interview with The Associated Press.

The deluxe edition includes a prequel to the original series, showing what happened to the magical lead character Morpheus, who controls all dreams, before "The Sandman" #1. Gaiman said he hopes the re-release will make longtime fans examine the 75-issue run with new eyes.

"(It) would actually make a re-read of the entire Sandman (series) more interesting,"

Gaiman said.

In the time since the British-born author wrapped up the original run of "The Sandman," Gaiman has collected Newbery and Carnegie medals, Oscar and Golden Globe nominations, Hugo and Nebula awards, as well as acclaim by the "Dictionary of Literary Biography," which called him one of the top 10 living post-modern writers. Meanwhile, he's branched out into novels, films, poetry and audio works.

But if it was up to him, Gaiman, whose other books include "Coraline" and "American Gods," said he would have been writing more comic books.

"For me it's all storytelling," Gaiman said. "If there were a thousand hours in the day, if I had several bodies and all the time I wanted, I would have kept on writing comics as much as I write novels, as much as I write television, as much as I write poems or plays, as much as I write movie screenplays. I would be doing all of them. As it is, it's more about time."

In loving memory of JULIE CRISOSTOMO ALDAN CASTRO

June 09, 1935 – November 26, 2015

Julie was called to her eternal rest at the age of 80

In her new life, she joins her

Parents: †Joaquin Concepcion Aldan and †Manuela Crisostomo
Parents-in-Law: †Pedro Deleon Castro and †Virginia Camacho Castro
Sons: †Francisco Aldan Castro and †Edwin Frank Aldan Castro
Grandsons: †Manuel Castro Villagomez and †John Castro Villagomez
Brothers/Sisters and In-Laws: †Rosalia and †Alfred Fleming, †Francisco C. Aldan, †Ignacio and †Merced DLG. Aldan, †Teresita and †Justo Sanchez, †Engracia A. Johnson, †Tomas and †Mariana S. Aldan, †Alfonso U. Diaz, †Rosalia and †Juan Mendiola, †Vicente S. Villagomez and †Augustine C. Castro.

Her Spirits and Memories will forever live in the hearts of Her:

Loving Husband and Darling: **Francisco "Frank" Camacho Castro**

Children:

Jovita Pauline and Edward A. Flores (Maggie & Antonio Kaipat - Cassidee, Oliveeah, Edward George II)
Virginia Victoria (Thomas & Irene Villagomez - Noah, Kylie; Tasha & Alex Lee - Tammie, Talen; Francisco & Deana Villagomez - Ezekiel Manui), Luise Victoria
Susan (Julie Jane & Juan; Lela & Jon Boy Taitano-Honey, Baylee, Solomon Edwin & Jolene Castro-Solomon Edwin Jr, Ava Nicole, Francisco Camacho Castro II and Virginia Emily)
Frances Margaret and Dr. Peter Houk (Becky & Joshua Poblete: Myra, Brielle, Rhiley; Brittany & Rudy Sablan-Aundre, Tru, Blake; and Rica Branielle)
Jessica Jean and Jesse Domingo (Deyvee Jeen & John, Derrienne Cheyenne, Matilde Julita A. Castro, Francisco Kekoa Manuel Castro, and Jesse Dean Domingo Jr.)

Sisters and In-Laws:

Elena A. Diaz, Maria "Manting" and Antonio Sablan, Paulina A. Corliss, Bernadita DLR. Aldan, Amparo DLG. Tenorio, Margarita A. Aldan, Taeko K. Castro, Soledad C. Castro, Rita C. and David M. Sablan, Pedro C. and Timm Castro.

Caretakers: Medina Bondoc, Luming Caringal and Tony DeoGracias

She will also be missed by numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, godchildren and friends.

Daily Mass of Intentions for the repose of her soul are being celebrated each morning at Kristo Rai Church, Garapan at 6:00am. Holy Rosary is being prayed nightly at 7:00 pm also at Kristo Rai Church. Funeral Services will be held on Friday, December 04, 2015. Her remains will be escorted from Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel at 8:30 am to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Cathedral. Responso Service will be at 9:00 am. Holy Rosary will be prayed at 11:00 am. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 2:00 pm. Cremation Service will take place on Saturday, December 05, 2015 at Our Lady of Peace Crematorium, Windward Hills, Guam.

**Please join us in prayers,
Frank Camacho Castro
Children and Family**

Poland will not extradite Roman Polanski to the US

WARSAW, Poland (AP)—Poland will not extradite Oscar-winning filmmaker Roman Polanski to the U.S. in an almost 40-year-old case after prosecutors declined to challenge a court ruling against the extradition request.

Prosecutors in Krakow, who had sought the extradition on behalf of the U.S., said Friday they found the court's refusal of extradition to be "right" and said they found no grounds to appeal it.

A lawyer for Polanski, Jan Olszewski, told The Associated Press that Polanski's reaction was of "great relief" and "satisfaction" that the irregularities in the U.S. procedure have been exposed. Polanski spoke to his lawyer over the phone from Paris, where he lives with his family.

The case was heard in Kra-

kow, where Polanski has residence in Poland.

The decision by the prosecutors closes the case in Poland and means Polanski, 82, is free to reside and work in Poland, where he grew up and studied filmmaking, and where he is preparing to make a new movie. Preparations for the movie were stalled by the arrest and extradition requests that the U.S. made last year. In 2011, Switzerland rejected a U.S. request to extradite Polanski.

The director pleaded guilty in 1977 to one count of unlawful sexual intercourse with a 13-year-old girl during a photo shoot in Los Angeles. In a deal with the judge, he served 42 days in prison, but then fled the U.S. fearing the judge would have him imprisoned again for much longer. The U.S. has been seeking to bring Polanski back

and put him before a court.

Krakow prosecutors shared the court's opinion that Polanski had served his punishment and did not need to face a U.S. court again.

A judge in Krakow ruled last month that Polanski's extradition is inadmissible, arguing that the U.S. trial was not fair and that Polanski would not face fair treatment there, something that violate Europe's convention on human rights.

The Krakow prosecutors said in a statement they agreed with the court's reasoning.

Among the irregularities, the court and the prosecutors cited a violation of Polanski's right to defend himself decades ago in the United States, "unethical" discussions between the judge



Polanski

and only one side in the case without all parties involved, informal instructions to the judges, intentional destruction of some of the documents in the case and loss of some others and excessive sensitivity of the judges to criticism in the media.

Public opinion is in Polanski's favor in Poland, where his artistic output is deeply admired and where he spent his World War II childhood and went into filmmaking. His mother died in the Auschwitz death camp.

The filmmaker's movements are restricted by an Interpol warrant in effect in 188 countries, but he has avoided extradition by traveling only between France, Poland and Switzerland.

Olszewski and another lawyer for Polanski, Jerzy Sta-

chowicz, said they will try to make the Polish court's verdict applicable in all of the 26 countries belonging to the Schengen passport-free travel zone. But he didn't give details of that plan.

Polanski won an Academy Award for best director for his 2002 film "The Pianist" that he filmed in Warsaw and was nominated for 1974's "Chinatown" and 1979's "Tess."

Singer-songwriter Lera Lynn breaks out from 'True Detective'

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Singer-songwriter Lera Lynn looks nothing like the character she played on season two of HBO's crime noir series, "True Detective," who sang woe-



Lynn

ful drug ballads in a seedy dive bar.

Lynn said the main actors Vince Vaughn and Colin Farrell probably never caught a glimpse of her on set without her makeup on, which included track marks and bruises on her arms, dark circles under her eyes, oily hair and yellow teeth.

"I looked a lot worse in person than on camera, thankfully," said Lynn in her home studio in Nashville, Tennessee. "I did tell Colin and Vince once, 'Just so you know, I am a healthy regular person.'"

Lynn was selected by producer and composer T. Bone Burnett to help write and sing the songs that set the mood for the dark critically acclaimed series. But Burnett and the show's creator Nic Pizzolatto couldn't tell her much about the plot when she started working on the show, other than they wanted "narco-ballads," Lynn said. Grammy-winning singer Rosanne Cash also helped write songs for the show as well, including the haunting "My Least Favorite Life."

"It was interesting trying to create a character for the show whose function I was completely oblivious to," Lynn said.

But now that the show is over, Lynn has returned her focus

on working on her next album and touring in the United States and overseas. Lynn's last album, "The Avenues," released in 2014, is a mix of Americana and country and her voice has a heavenly whisper that invokes comparisons to Joy Williams of The Civil Wars. Her next album, produced by Joshua Grange, is due out early next year.

"I think there are definitely aspects of the 'True Detective' style that run through my music," Lynn said. "It's just a sliver of what I do. T. Bone saw that somewhere and I think that's why he invited me to write and play on the show."

She's thankful for the extra attention she's gotten from appearing on the show and said adding the songs from the television series to her set list has also added a dramatic element to the live show.

"I throw them in where people least expect it," Lynn said. "It's a neat part of the show, I think. It just brings everything way down for a minute. And then we just rock out."

Sofia Vergara scores by sharing wedding photos on Instagram

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Newlyweds Sofia Vergara and Joe Manganiello might have cashed in by selling their wedding photos to a celebrity magazine, but instead they posted the pictures online, and the benefits could be priceless.

Vergara shared 55 photos from her wedding weekend on Instagram, from the romantic, flower-filled setting to her first dance with her new husband. There are shots of her co-workers—"Modern Family" stars Eric Stonestreet, Ty Burrell and Jesse Tyler Ferguson—and a snap of the couple cutting their cake. It's like an extended magazine layout without the magazine.

By sharing the photos via social media, Vergara was able to "give fans the best perspective on her special day: her own," said Instagram exec Charlton Ghoslon.

She not only controls the narrative, she cultivates an image of accessibility, which could have an even bigger payoff.

Marketing consultant Dorie Clark said the move sends "a clear branding signal that you are of the people."

"Just because magazines



AP
This June 9, 2015, file photo shows Joe Manganiello, left, and Sofia Vergara arriving at the Los Angeles premiere of "Jurassic World" at the Dolby Theatre.

daughter Blue Ivy on their personal websites. Justin Timberlake and Jessica Biel used Instagram to publicly share the first shots of their son, Silas.

"I think we're going to see more stars doing this, not less," said Fuller, who notes that magazine publishers don't have the budgets they once did. "Social media has given such a forum to celebrities."

Ultimately, Vergara and Manganiello making their wedding pictures widely available could lead to even more coverage in celebrity media, Clark said: "You might get more publicity value than in cash value had you sold the rights exclusively."

want to pay you tons of money for your photos, you're not succumbing to that," she said. "You're a regular gal and you're

releasing photos on Instagram the way your friends do. You're not a spoiled Hollywood starlet. You're of the people."

That kind of image is more fan-friendly—and almost expected in the era of reality-TV, said Bonnie Fuller, editor-in-chief of celebrity site HollywoodLife.com. Such accessibility also fits Vergara's character on "Modern Family," Fuller said.

"People who tune into the show love to see her being so happy and love to see her love story that she found true love with Joe Manganiello," she said. "She looks so beautiful and she's so excited, and you like her even better and you can't wait to see her back on her show."

Other stars have skipped traditional publications to bring their personal photos straight to the people. Beyoncé and Jay Z posted the first pictures of

Outspoken Miss World Canada denied entry to China

HONG KONG (AP)—Canada's outspoken Miss World contestant said she was barred Thursday from entering China to take part in this year's pageant and accused Beijing of overreach in extending its campaign of censorship even to beauty contests.

Chinese-born Anastasia Lin said she was unable to board her connecting flight from Hong Kong to the southern island province of Hainan after a Chinese official told her by telephone that she would not be granted a visa on arrival.

Lin is an outspoken critic of Chinese religious policy and a follower of the Falun Gong meditation practice, which was outlawed by China's ruling Communist Party in 1999.

"If they start to censor beauty pageants—how pathetic is that?" Lin said in Hong Kong.

Dressed in black leggings and a belted tan trench coat, Lin was approached by several fellow travelers in the Hong

Kong airport arrival hall who wanted to take her photo.

Lin, who moved to Canada from China when she was 13, told a U.S. congressional hearing in July that tens of thousands of Falun Gong practitioners have

been killed so their organs could be harvested and sold for transplants. The 25-year-old actress also plays an imprisoned Falun Gong practitioner in an upcoming Canadian movie, "The Bleeding Edge."

Lin said that after she won the Canadian title, Chinese security agents visited her father who still lives in China in an apparent attempt to intimidate her into silence. Although she hadn't received an invitation letter from organizers, and therefore was unable to obtain a Chinese visa, she said she decided to travel to China anyway in hopes of obtaining a visa on arrival.



Lin

After landing in Hong Kong early Thursday on a flight from Toronto, Lin was told by airline staff at check-in that she needed to speak to an official in Hainan's provincial capital of Sanya. She said the official, who

identified himself only by his surname, Chen, seemed to be attempting to verify her identity. After telling her she wasn't eligible for a visa, the man refused to give a reason then abruptly hung up the phone, she said.

"To prevent me from even stepping into Chinese territory, I think this is what they're trying to do. I really don't see where this insecurity comes from," Lin told The Associated Press. "I think that's the real harm when people watch this and learn a negative lesson. I hope people see courage and hope in the story, not simply just being denied."

CHART TOPPERS

The top 10 songs and albums on the iTunes Store for the week ending Nov. 26, 2015:

TOP SONGS

1. Hello, Adele
2. Sorry, Justin Bieber
3. Love Yourself, Justin Bieber
4. When We Were Young, Adele
5. Hotline Bling, Drake
6. Like I'm Gonna Lose You (feat. John Legend), Meghan Trainor
7. Same Old Love, Selena Gomez
8. What Do You Mean?, Justin Bieber
9. Ex's & Oh's, Elle King

10. Stitches, Shawn Mendes

TOP ALBUMS

1. 25, Adele
2. Purpose (Deluxe), Justin Bieber
3. Top 5 Dead or Alive, Jadakiss
4. That's Christmas To Me, Pentatonix
5. Traveller, Chris Stapleton
6. Made In The A.M., One Direction
7. 21, Adele
8. Beauty Behind the Madness, The Weeknd
9. Dark Sky Island (Deluxe), Enya
10. A Head Full of Dreams, Coldplay

Harry Potter author takes to Twitter to talk about Snape

LONDON (AP)—Harry Potter readers have long wanted to know: Why did the boy wizard choose to honor Severus Snape—a teacher who had been so mean to him?

Author JK Rowling took to Twitter to answer the enduring question on Friday in an exchange with a fan who asked why one of Harry's children received the middle name of Severus.

The acclaimed author ex-

plained that Harry paid tribute to Snape because of "forgiveness and gratitude." Though Snape bullied Harry, he also saved him.

"Harry hoped in his heart that he too would be forgiven. The deaths at the Battle of Hogwarts would haunt Harry forever," Rowling said that while a whole essay could be written on why Harry gave his son Snape's name, it goes to the "heart of who Harry was, post-war."

Rowling's seven Harry Potter novels have sold more than 450 million copies and been made into eight films. Readers eagerly seek clues about her thinking behind the character.

"Snape is all grey. You can't make him a saint: he was vindictive & bullying. You can't make him a devil: he died to save the wizarding world," Rowling tweeted.

The question of Snape has

dogged readers in part because he returned to side of the villain, Lord Voldemort, and killed Harry's hero, headmaster Albus Dumbledore, in one of the later

books in the series, "The Half Blood Prince."

In the final book, "The Deathly Hallows," Rowling reveals that Snape was acting on

Dumbledore's orders and had protected Harry at school out of love for Harry's mother, Lily.

"Snape died for Harry out of love for Lily," Rowling said.

Adele announces first tour in five years for new album '25'



AP
In this Feb. 24, 2013 file photo, singer Adele arrives at the Oscars in Los Angeles.

LONDON (AP)—Adele has announced her first tour since 2011, with a string of European dates in support of her record-breaking new album, "25."

The British singer announced Thursday that she will play venues in Britain and Europe starting Feb. 29 in Belfast, Northern Ireland.

Adele has previously said she finds touring lonely. But in a video on Facebook, the 27-year-old said she was "relieved to

finally tell you I am of course coming on tour and I can't wait to see all of you there."

The album sold a record 2.4 million copies in its first four days in the U.S., according to Nielsen Music. In Britain, it sold 737,000 copies in its first week.

The first single, "Hello," is a hit on both sides of the Atlantic.

One reason for the astronomical sales may be that Adele declined to make her

album available through music-streaming services including Apple Music and Spotify, forcing listeners to buy it either digitally and at stores.

It can be heard via U.S.-based online radio company Pandora Music Inc., which announced this week that it was playing all the songs on "25." Pandora is not an on-demand service, though, so listeners can't choose which tracks they hear.

Eagles settle lawsuit over New York man's concert footage

CENTRAL ISLIP, N.Y. (AP)—Don Henley and Glen Frey of the Eagles have settled a federal lawsuit against a New York man they accused of peddling bootleg recordings of their concerts.

The Daily News (<http://nydn.us/1OkeKnJ>) reports that the pair's lawsuit against

Bill Shelley has been settled with a permanent injunction barring him from showing any recordings of the group.

Henley and Frey sent a cease-and-desist letter when they learned the Avon Theater in Connecticut was advertising an October 2014 show called "Legends of Rock Live: The Eagles:

1976 Tour" with concert footage from Shelley's film vault.

Shelley's lawyer tells the Daily News that Shelley canceled the show and the band members sued him anyway.

But both sides apparently decided to take it easy and settle the lawsuit. Monetary terms were not disclosed.

Jordan eager to get back in the ring with a 'Creed' sequel

LOS ANGELES (AP)—With "Creed" knocking out audiences and critics alike, Michael B. Jordan acknowledges he would love to lace up the gloves again for a sequel.

Jordan openly welcomed the possibility of an eventual "Creed 2" even before writer-director Ryan Coogler's new chapter in the Rocky Balboa boxing saga opened to mostly rave reviews and a strong box-office performance during the five-day Thanksgiving weekend.

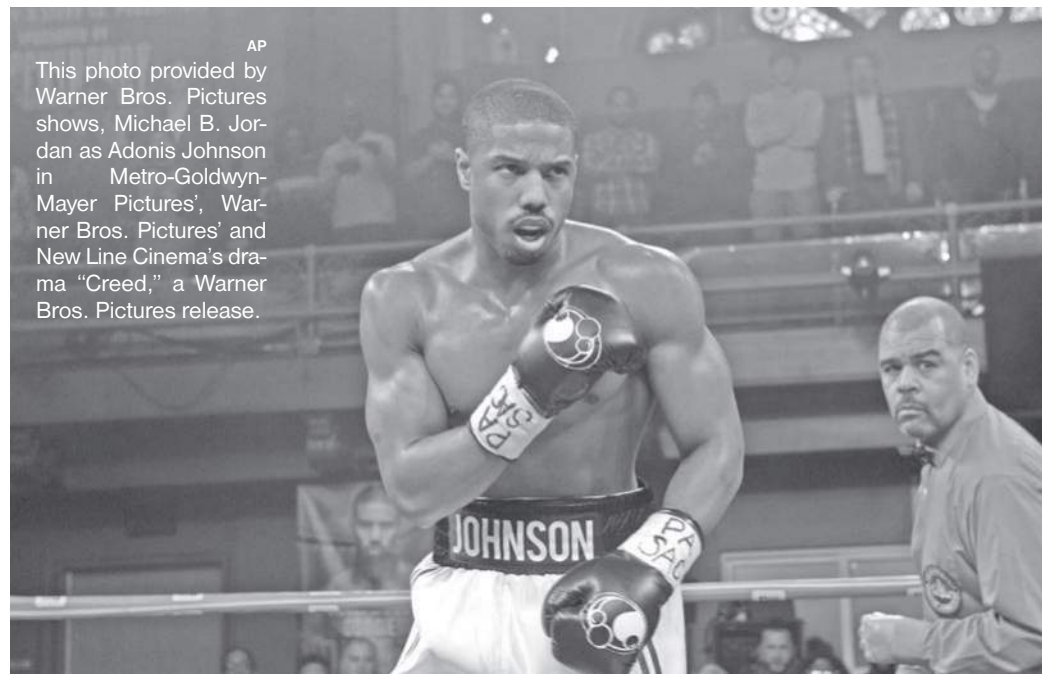
"A character so rich as this,

and the world he's in, I want to see what happens to him next and what he does," Jordan said in a recent interview. "Especially the way it ends off, it's pretty cool. I think with success and time and circumstances, it would be exciting to come back and work with (co-stars) Sly (Stallone) and Tessa (Thompson) again." Coogler, too, has expressed enthusiasm for another "Creed."

The film featuring Stallone's seventh appearance as Rocky, now a trainer to up-and-coming

fighter Adonis Creed (Jordan), had a solid holiday weekend that's projected to hit about \$40 million despite daunting competition. "Creed" also received a CinemaScore of A from audiences enthralled by Creed's rise and Stallone's much-praised supporting performance as Rocky facing his mortality.

With only a reported \$35 million budget, "Creed" is already likely to turn a tidy profit. New Line Cinema and distributor Warner Bros. haven't publicly announced sequel plans.



AP
This photo provided by Warner Bros. Pictures shows, Michael B. Jordan as Adonis Johnson in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Pictures', Warner Bros. Pictures' and New Line Cinema's drama "Creed," a Warner Bros. Pictures release.

Daughter dreads holiday visit to mom in diminished health

DEAR ABBY: I gave birth to a baby girl two months ago. I have a wonderful husband and my in-laws are incredible. We live far away from both sides of the family.

My mom is a former cocaine and prescription pain meds addict. Her addiction diminished her mental capacities, and it's difficult to relate to her because the only things she can talk about are her health issues and all the medications she's currently taking.

Mom recently came to visit us. I hadn't seen her in two years, and when she did, I realized we have nothing in common. She and my dad are still happily married, and Dad has yet to meet my child. I'm supposed to visit them for the holidays, but I'd rather spend the time with my in-laws. Any suggestions?

NOTHING IN COMMON IN HAWAII

DEAR NOTHING IN COMMON: Yes. Sometimes it's important to do things we would rather not because they are the right thing to do. Your father is trying to make the best of a difficult situation, and your mother is working to overcome a serious illness—which addiction is.

Make the scheduled visit you committed to, and give your dad the chance to meet his grandchild. If, after that, you de-

cide to permanently distance yourself from your parents, it will be your choice, but you may change your mind.

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend of five years, "Jack," is funny, unique and generally very sweet. I'm currently on disability and working hard to get myself healthy enough to start working again. The problem is, Jack thinks I do nothing but sit on my butt all day.

When I worked, we used to trade massages to make each other feel relaxed because our jobs were physically demanding. Now, because I'm not working, he says it's my "job" to help him relax. I give him a massage every night, but it's never reciprocated. When I ask him for one, he puts no effort into it and acts like it's a chore.

I no longer feel loved or special. I feel like a live-in masseuse, but I'm worried that if I stop, there will be no physical contact at all between us. What would be the best way to let him know I'm tired of it?

RUBBED THE WRONG WAY IN MINNESOTA

DEAR RUBBED THE WRONG WAY: Jack doesn't sound all that "sweet" to me. Because you feel the way you do, tell him how his change of behavior is affecting you. Touch is important because it helps partners to stay connected. Could it

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



be that Jack's unwillingness to give you massages is "punishment" because you're not contributing financially as you did while you were working?

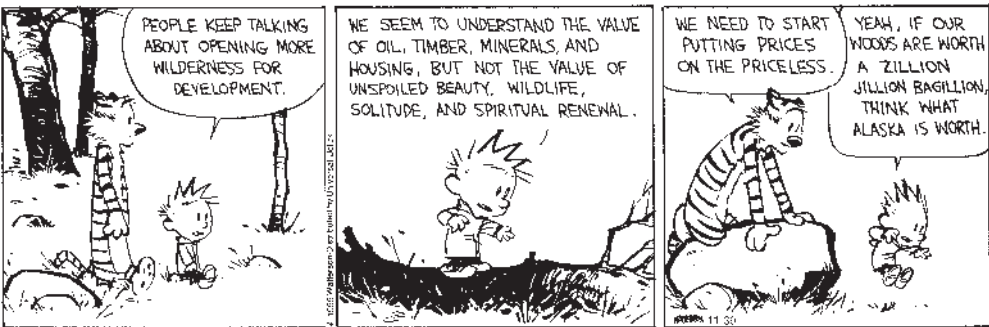
Tell him you miss the closeness you once shared, and that if the shoe were on the other foot, you wouldn't treat him this way. Depending on what he has to say, suggest that for the sake of your relationship, a compromise may be in order because your partnership is not equal now.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby - Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



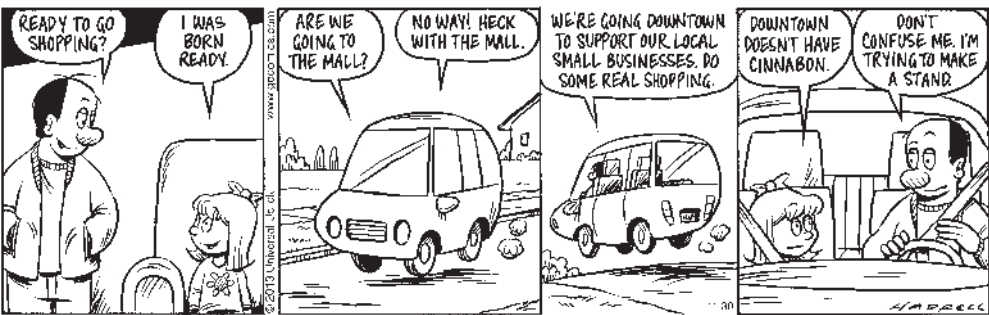
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



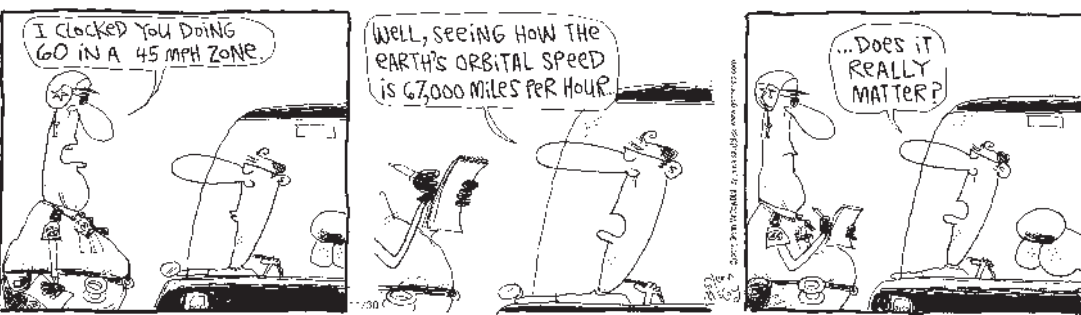
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Bit of advice

4 Dry cleaner?

7 Big name in stereotypes

11 "Get —" (James Brown biopic)

13 Life story

14 Sign over a door

15 Concert "take"

16 "Apple cider" girl

17 They're all ears?

18 In first place

20 "Frozen" queen

22 Seed case

24 Plaster finish on a wall

28 Fishermen

32 "Non-sensel"

33 Swampy goo

34 Heart doc's test

36 Soothe

37 Harmful bacteria

39 "Been there, done that"

41 Pass along, as a fruitcake

43 Sitcom alien

44 Actress Madeline

46 Rug rats

50 Very long sentence?

53 ISP giant

55 Belgian-French river

56 Buff color

57 Grant-making gp.

58 Cold War power

59 "The — the limit!"

60 Dutch airline

61 Weep

2 — uproar (loud)

3 Golfer's tap

4 Ballpark stat

5 Staffer

6 World Cup scores

7 2005

8 Kelly Clarkson song

8 Housewares brand

9 Bro, to sis

10 UFO crew

12 2013

12 Kelly Clarkson song

19 Boston-born writer

21 Indy 500 advertiser

23 Rapping Dr.

25 Blacken on the grill

26 Lawyer's assignment

27 Had debts

28 U.S.-born

29 Pleasant

30 Sailor's mugful

31 Emulate Lindsey Vonn

35 "Today" rival, briefly

38 "— tree falls ..."

40 Deli sandwich letters

42 GIF starter

45 Yuletide song

47 Under-the-mistletoe event

48 Canadian gas brand

49 Belgrade native

50 Guitar legend — Paul

51 "Eww, gross!"

52 Saute

54 Quick escape

Solution time: 27 mins.

Friday's answer 11-30

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kaley Cuoco, 30; Elisha Cuthbert, 33; Ben Stiller, 50; Billy Idol, 60.

Happy Birthday: Keep everything in order. Preparation and organization, as well as moderation and sticking to a budget will be critical in reaching your goals. Stick to the facts or you will be blamed for being misleading. Bring about positive change that will have an impact on yourself and others. Update and expand your skills and qualifications. Make romance a priority. Your numbers are 7, 15, 21, 24, 33, 36, 40.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Invest more time in yourself. Update your look and add more skills to your resume. Set up interviews or attend a networking function. Express your thoughts and bring about positive changes. Romance will improve your personal life. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Friends or relatives will offer information or suggestions that will help you make an important decision about your work. Send emails, make phone calls and engage in conversations that will allow you to present what you have to offer. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't take an unnecessary risk. The information you are given will be confusing or incomplete. Ask questions and be moderate if asked to make a donation. It's what you do, not what you say that will make a difference. ★★★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You'll have to balance your time between home, family and work responsibilities. Be careful how you handle demanding people.

If you take on too much in order to please others, you will end up exhausted. Gauge your time carefully. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Step into the spotlight and take on the role of leader. Your take-charge attitude will bring about a favorable change that will help you attract help from your peers. Romance is on the rise, but overspending on entertainment is best avoided. ★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Problems at home will escalate. Listen to the problems being voiced, but don't buy into a plan that leaves you in a precarious position. Overreacting or giving in to demands will result in more problems than benefits. Don't share personal secrets. ★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Take care of personal responsibilities and you will find it easier to deal with work-related matters. Discuss your options, expectations and plans for the future. Love is highlighted, and planning a romantic getaway is encouraged. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Learn from past experiences and make adjustments that will help empower you to make better choices. Be creative in how you live. Work on improving your neighborhood and community facilities. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Uncertainty, inconsistency and overextending yourself must all be avoided. Focus on saving and cutting your overhead. Look for opportunities that will allow you to use your talents to bring in extra cash. A change in an important relationship will be beneficial. ★★★★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Money matters look promising. Steer clear of individuals who are unpredictable or inconsistent. Take pride in what you do and opt to work alone in order to avoid taking care of other people's responsibilities and problems. ★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't let medical, financial or legal matters make you angry. Do what needs to be done and keep moving. A chance to make professional progress is apparent if you are willing to take the necessary steps to promote what you have to offer. ★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't be tempted to get involved in gossip or take action based on hearsay. Nothing will be as it appears, and closer consideration must be made before you make a move. Keeping your plans simple and moderate is favored. ★★★

Birthday Baby: You are curious, unique and worldly. You are energetic and playful.

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

		8	4	3					
7				9	8	1			
2				7			8		
1	4	9				5		6	
	5				6			1	
	7		4				5	9	2
			5		2				1
				5	4	8			3
					7	9	8		

Difficulty Level ★ 11/30

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's SUDOKU Answer

6	5	8	1	2	3	7	9	4
3	1	9	6	4	7	8	5	2
4	2	7	5	8	9	1	6	3
8	9	3	7	5	1	2	4	6
5	7	2	4	6	8	3	1	9
1	6	4	9	3	2	5	7	8
2	4	5	3	1	6	9	8	7
7	8	1	2	9	4	6	3	5
9	3	6	8	7	5	4	2	1

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 1/27

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Warriors run NBA-record start to 18-0, beat Kings, 120-101



OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Stephen Curry scored 19 points in Golden State's NBA-record 18th straight win at the start of a season, but what he didn't do against the Sacramento Kings was just as important to the defending champion Warriors.

Curry, the league's reigning Most Valuable Player and its leading scorer this season with an average of 32.6 points, played less than 30 minutes in the 120-101 victory Saturday night and took only seven shots—all but one in the first quarter.

"I'm sure Steph doesn't like it," Warriors interim head coach Luke Walton said. "But the coaching staff and the training staff, we're thrilled to get him that rest."

Curry, who scored 17 of his points in the first quarter, said he understood it made sense for him to sit out the entire fourth period of the blowout with the Warriors about to embark on a two-week, seven-game road trip.

"Any time you can stay fresh and do it in winning fashion, it's fun," Curry said. "Obviously, I like to play."

Draymond Green had his second straight triple-double and the Warriors, who led by 10 points at halftime, opened the third quarter with a 27-8 run that included four 3-pointers by Brandon Rush to build their lead to 29 points. The Kings didn't get within 21 points again until the final minute of the game.

Green had 13 points, 11 rebounds and 12 assists. Rush scored 16 points and Klay Thompson added 15 for the Warriors.

Rudy Gay scored 20 points for Sacramento, which fell to 6-12.



AP
Golden State Warriors guard Stephen Curry, right, laughs with Sacramento Kings guard Seth Curry, his brother, after an NBA basketball game Saturday, Nov. 28, 2015, in Oakland, Calif.

second), first-half points (37) and matched a season low for total points. The Hawks' starters finished with 38 points.

Trail Blazers 108, Lakers 96

In Portland, Oregon, Damian Lillard scored 29 points and Portland handed Los Angeles its fifth straight loss.

CJ McCollum added 28 points for the Blazers. They have won three of their last four games after a six-game losing streak. Kobe Bryant scored 21 points in the Lakers' seventh straight road loss.

Mavericks 92, Nuggets 81

In Dallas, Deron Williams scored 22 points, Zaza Pachulia added 16 points and 12 rebounds, and Dallas beat Denver to end a three-game losing streak.

Dallas has won five straight at home after losing its first two games of the season at American Airlines Center. Darrell Arthur, who attended Dallas' South Oak Cliff High, scored 16 points for Denver. The Nuggets began a five-game road trip with their sixth straight loss.

Jazz 101, Pelicans 87

In Salt Lake City, Alec Burks scored 21 points and Utah beat New Orleans.

Gordon Hayward added 17 points, Rodney Hood had 16, and Trevor Booker finished with 13 points and 15 rebounds. Pelicans center Anthony Davis scored 14 of the Pelicans' 16 first-quarter points and finished with 36. Davis also had 11 rebounds and blocked three shots.

"They're on a magic carpet ride right now. They're playing great," Gay told reporters. "They're just playing well right now. They're moving the ball and everybody's shooting the ball. Their defense is great. You hate to be on the losing side of it, but it's impressive."

The Warriors' 22nd straight regular-season victory—a streak that includes four wins at the end of last season—tied the 2007-08 Houston Rockets for the third-longest such streak in NBA history, trailing only the 33 straight by the 1971-72 Los Angeles Lakers and 27 in a row by the 2012-13 Miami Heat.

Curry hit three 3-pointers in the opening period while scor-

ing more than half of Golden State's 30 points. The Warriors trailed until the final six seconds of that quarter, but quickly took control in the second period against a Kings team missing leading scorer DeMarcus Cousins.

Cavaliers 90, Nets 88

In Cleveland, LeBron James made a running hook shot with a second left and scored 26 points, giving Cleveland a victory over Brooklyn.

After Joe Johnson's three foul shots tied it with 15.2 seconds left, the Cavaliers called timeout and took the ball at midcourt.

James took the inbounds pass, dribbled to the top of the

key before cutting to the right of the lane and hitting a hook shot over Brook Lopez, the Nets' 7-foot center.

James scored 10 points and added a key steal late in the game to help Cleveland remain unbeaten at home in nine games. Kevin Love also scored 26 points for Cleveland, which played a sluggish first half and didn't take its first lead until midway through the third quarter.

Lopez led Brooklyn with 22 points.

Raptors 84, Wizards 82

In Washington, Cory Joseph made a 3-pointer at the buzzer to lift Toronto past Washington.

Joseph took DeMar DeRo-

zan's pass in the corner and nailed the winning shot. He finished with 12 points as Toronto won its fourth straight despite tying a season high with 22 turnovers.

Kyle Lowry scored 27 points for the Raptors. Bradley Beal scored 20 points for Washington.

Spurs 108, Hawks 88

In San Antonio, Kawhi Leonard scored 22 points and San Antonio won its fifth straight, holding the Atlanta to several season lows offensively.

San Antonio matched a season high with nine 3-pointers in winning its 18th consecutive home game against Atlanta and 10th straight overall against the Hawks.

Atlanta had season lows for points in any quarter (12 in the

Police: Puig gets swollen eye during encounter with bouncer



MIAMI (AP)—Los Angeles Dodgers outfielder Yasiel Puig sustained a swollen eye and facial bruises during a fight with a bouncer.

Miami police spokesman Major Delrish Moss said the injuries happened Wednesday night as the Cuban slugger was leaving the Blue Martini bar at bouncers' request following an argument with his sister.

Major League Baseball plans to investigate, making Puig the second player subject to potential discipline under the sport's new domestic violence policy.

Moss said "at some point" Puig and a bouncer began to fight, leaving Puig with the swollen left eye and "minor bumps and bruises" to his face. Moss said the bouncer got a busted lip and minor facial bruises.

The spokesman said the bouncer claimed Puig sucker-punched him; Puig said the bouncer got too aggressive. Moss said neither wanted to



AP
This July 20, 2015, file photo shows Los Angeles Dodgers right fielder Yasiel Puig looking on from the dugout during a baseball game against the Atlanta Braves in Atlanta.

and cousin were in the car with him.

Puig signed a \$42 million, seven-year contract in June 2012.

MLB officials and the players union agreed in August on a new comprehensive policy concerning domestic violence, sexual assault and child abuse. The agreement followed a series of high-profile domestic violence cases involving NFL players.

Commissioner Rob Manfred was given broad discretion for determining the length of punishment for players for "just cause." There are no maximum or minimum penalties prescribed in the deal. Manfred also is given the authority to suspend a player with pay while legal proceedings are ongoing.

press charges.

A Dodgers spokesman said Friday night the team had no comment.

Limited to 72 games this season because of hamstring injuries, Puig hit .255 with 11 homers and 30 RBIs.

The Cuban defector, who

turns 25 next month, makes his offseason home in Miami.

It's the latest in a series of scrapes involving Puig. He was arrested twice for reckless driving in 2013, leading the Dodgers to say they were "very disappointed" with his behavior. In one of the cases, Puig's mother

Boston police probing fight involving 76ers center Okafor

BOSTON (AP)—A man has come forward saying Philadelphia 76ers center Jahlil Okafor assaulted him during a fight in Boston that was recorded on cellphone video and posted online, police said.

The man filed a police report Friday saying he was punched and knocked to the ground outside a nightclub early Thursday morning, authorities said. The man said he needed stitches to close a cut above his eye, according to police.

The man told police that the fight broke out after some of his female friends refused the advances of two other men, including one believed to be Okafor.

Boston police said they are investigating the allegations.

No charges have been announced.

The 19-year-old rookie said Friday that he was embarrassed about the scuffle and was dealing with the team and the NBA on possible discipline.

Okafor said he reacted to heckling about the Sixers, who lost to the Celtics Wednesday night to fall to 0-16 on the season.

"It was definitely dumb on my part," Okafor said Friday.

A few hours later, the Sixers fell to the Houston Rockets, 116-114, to remain winless on the season. Okafor had 11 points and six rebounds.

TMZ posted cellphone video of the altercation on Thursday, showing Okafor yelling and later shoving a man outside the club.

Tyson Fury ends Wladimir Klitschko's heavyweight reign



DUESSEL-DORF, Germany (AP)—

Tyson Fury defeated Wladimir Klitschko by unanimous decision Saturday to end the Ukrainian's 9 1/2-year reign as heavyweight champion and fulfill his father's prophesy from the day he was born.

Born three months early and weighing just one pound (.45 kg), Fury wasn't given much chance to live, but John Fury told doctors it was his destiny to live and become heavyweight champion of the world. He named the second of his six sons Tyson, after Mike Tyson.

Twenty-seven years later, the 2.09-meter (6-foot-9) Tyson Fury, who is of Irish-Gypsy heritage and comes from a bloodline of bare-knuckle champions on both sides of his family, finally lived up to his name.

"It's something I've been working on for my whole life," Fury said. "I'm bred to be a fighter."

After a bruising encounter that ended with cuts near both of Klitschko's eyes, referee Tony Weeks went to the judges' scorecards.

Cesar Ramos and Raul Caiz Sr. scored it 115-112 each, while Ramon Cerdan had it 116-111 in favor of the undefeated Briton (25-0, 18 KO).

Fury took Klitschko's WBA, IBF, and WBO heavyweight belts, as well as the minor IBO title, and attention turned immediately to a potential rematch.



"We have a rematch clause in the contract," Klitschko

promoter Bernd Boente said. "I'm a fighter so I will take

on all challengers," Fury said. "I came here tonight, took the

world title. Whatever happens next is a blessing. The interest in the next fight will be huge."

Fury, 12 years younger than the 39-year-old Klitschko, taunted and baited the champion at various stages, prompting jeers from fans at the 55,000-seat soccer stadium in Duesseldorf.

Klitschko (64-4, 53 KO), contesting his 28th title fight, was cautious until attempting a recovery in the final rounds, but suffered his first defeat since April 2004.

"The speed was missing. Reach played a big role. I tried but it didn't work," said Klitschko, who at 1.98-meters (6-foot-6), was in the unusual position of facing someone taller. Fury, who weighed in at 112 kilograms (247 pounds) also had half-kilo (1.1 pound) weight advantage.

"I saw my face in the mirror and it didn't look so nice. But that's boxing," Klitschko said.

Klitschko, the premier heavyweight of his era, relinquished the IBF belt he had held since 2006, the WBO title he'd owned since 2008, and the WBA crown he'd had since 2011.

The other major belt, the WBC title, was held by Deontay Wilder of the U.S. That was vacated in 2013 by Klitschko's older brother Vitali, the current mayor of Kiev, Ukraine.

Ukraine's Wladimir Klitschko, right, and Britain's Tyson Fury exchange blows as Fury wins the world heavyweight title fight for Klitschko's WBA, IBF, WBO and IBO belts in the Esprit Arena in Duesseldorf, western Germany, Sunday, Nov. 29, 2015.

The buildup to the fight had seen Fury dressing as Batman and serenading and insulting Klitschko, and even complimenting him on his scent.

"I've said some stupid things," an emotional Fury said of his pre-fight talk and antics. "Wladimir, you're a great champion and thanks for having me. It was all fun and games in the buildup."

Earlier Saturday, Fury threatened to call off the bout unless an issue with the canvas being too soft was resolved.

There were also issues over gloves and glove-wrapping. Vitali Klitschko oversaw Fury's glove-wrapping, but the Fury camp was incensed when the younger Klitschko wrapped the gloves without any of them present. That spat was resolved when he agreed to re-wrap.

Fury was itching to go from the start, and he ran into the first round to put Klitschko off kilter. The Briton also goaded Klitschko during and after the round.

Fury then landed a big right on Klitschko in the fifth, when he opened a small cut under his right eye, and taunted him again.

The Briton's intensity seemed to drop as Klitschko improved, but still he needed him in the seventh, when he urged Klitschko to "come on" and baited him with his hands behind his back, prompting more jeers.

Klitschko replied to an up-percut in the ninth with a big right of his own before Fury was warned for punching the back of his head. But then he had Klitschko in trouble in the corner.

Klitschko needed a response, and sought it in the 10th, by which time there was blood coming from his left eye, too.

Fury had a point deducted for hitting behind the head in the 11th and both fighters gave their all in a furious final round before raising their arms in celebration. The Fury camp's celebrations seemed more sincere.

"I am perhaps the sixth or seventh British heavyweight champion of the world and I believe I am the first Irish heavyweight champion of the world, so big that up," said Fury, who also revealed that his wife, Paris, is expecting their third child.

"I got the news yesterday that we were pregnant. We were trying for two years so this is obviously the icing on the cake," Fury said.

Cutler, Bears hold off Packers 17-13 at rainy Lambeau



GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP)—Drenched from a soaking rain, Jay Cutler finally walked out of Lambeau Field with a win.

The defense helped make Thursday night a Thanksgiving to remember for the Chicago Bears.

Cutler threw for 200 yards and a score and the Bears held off the Green Bay Packers on fourth-and-goal from the 8 with 22 seconds left for a 17-13 victory.

"It was just really a good team effort defensively," coach John Fox said.

Aaron Rodgers' throw to the end zone deflected off receiver Davante Adams' hands in the cold rain. James Jones couldn't hang on to a potential touchdown catch on third down.

Cornerback Tracy Porter intercepted Rodgers' pass with 3:19 left at the Bears 45 on the previous drive.

In his first year in Chicago, Fox has instilled confidence in his team that they can hang tough in close games.

"We've been in a lot of games in the fourth quarter, we've won some and we've lost some," Cutler said. "But

the thing of it is we've always been there, we've always had a shot."

Rodgers took a shot to the back of his left arm near the elbow in the third quarter from linebacker Lamarr Houston while the quarterback recovered a high snap. He said he lost feeling for a while in his left hand, gradually regaining full feeling in three fingers by the end of the game.

"It's my left hand, I'll be all right," said Rodgers, who was 22 of 43 for 202 yards and a touchdown.

Cutler was a little better, somewhat of a surprise given how poorly he has played at Lambeau in his career with the Bears.

In his four previous games at Lambeau, all losses, Cutler had thrown 12 interceptions. But with Fox and offensive coordinator Adam Gase, Cutler avoided throwing an interception.

Green Bay had won six of its previous seven at Lambeau in the series. And Thursday night seemed to set up perfectly for the Packers faithful on an emotional night with the team honoring former quarterback Brett Favre at halftime. His name and No. 4 joined the franchise's five

other retired numbers on the north facade inside the stadium.

The Bears played spoilers.

"Looking at guys in that locker room that had been here for a minute and maybe not had great success here—Jay included. It was fun to watch," Fox said.

Chicago (5-6) has won three of its last four. The Packers (7-4) lost a second straight home game.

"Difficult loss this evening, you need to win your home games," coach Mike McCarthy said.

Panthers 33, Cowboys 14

In Arlington, Texas, Cam Newton is still unbeaten this season. Tony Romo might be out for good with the same injury that sidelined him for seven games.

Newton got a big boost from a defense that returned two of Romo's three interceptions for touchdowns as the Panthers ran their NFL-best winning streak to 15 regular-season games with a 33-14 victory over the Dallas Cowboys on Thursday.

Romo injured the same left collarbone that sidelined him for all seven games of a losing streak that damaged the playoff hopes for the defending NFC East champion Cowboys (3-8).

Carolina linebacker Luke Kuechly intercepted two straight passes by Romo, returning the first 32 yards for a touchdown.

Safety Kurt Coleman picked off Romo's second pass of the game and took it back 36 yards for a score to help the Panthers become the 16th NFL team to start a season 11-0.

Lions 45, Eagles 14

In Detroit, Matthew Stafford equaled a career high with five touchdown passes, three to Calvin Johnson, as Detroit routed Philadelphia for its third straight victory.

Stafford threw for more than 200 yards and three touchdowns without a turnover in the first half to help the Lions (4-7) take a 24-7 lead. He finished 27 of 38 for 337 yards.

The Eagles (4-7) have lost three straight. They have allowed at least 45 points in two straight games in one season for the first time in team history.

Mark Sanchez started for Philadelphia with Sam Bradford inactive because of a shoulder injury. Sanchez was 19 of 27 for 199 yards and two touchdowns.

KB Market upsets Armatech

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

 KB Market stunned Armatech, 74-68, in the first masters division match in the 2015 San Antonio Community Action Network Basketball League last Saturday night at the San Antonio court.

KB Market capitalized on a depleted Armatech crew to pull off an upset and get its third win in seven games.

Armatech played without big man Bruce Berline, allowing KB Market's Peter Camacho to make most of his point-blanked shots. Camacho scored a team-high 21 points.

On offense, Armatech had limited options with shooter James Abuy missing the match. Martin Moreno tried to pick up the slack

and had some success, as he top-scored for his squad with his 26 markers. However, fatigue caught up with him late in the fourth quarter as he missed two charities and a triple in the homestretch that could have turned things around for Armatech.

KB Market was on top by only 4, 70-66, with still 1:10 left on the clock when Moreno muffed both charities. After Moreno's second miss, KB Market got a quick 2 points off Ed Pangelinan's fastbreak layup to gain more cushion.

Moreno tried to retaliate, but his triple from the top key hit nothing but air. Fortunately, for Armatech, Rommel Bartolo took the offensive rebound and was fouled underneath, but he missed the two free throws, too. Another offensive board gave Armatech a third chance to score and this

time Moreno cashed on it, making a bank shot to bring the deficit down to 4, 68-72, 22 seconds left in the match.

KB Market went for a quick inbound and Elias Rangamar threw a long pass to Camacho, who was ahead of Haejun Park. Mike Umali joined Camacho in the fastbreak play, drawing the defense of Peter Crisostomo to the left wing and allowing his teammate to unload an uncontested layup that sealed it for KB Market.

KB Market seized control of the close match in the fourth period when it broke the 60-all deadlock and zoomed to a 70-63 advantage off Camacho's two baskets and one apiece from Melchor Puri, Boy Garcia, and Umali. Armatech (4-3), on the other hand, was without a field goal for nearly six min-

utes and went 3-for-6 from the stripe before an and-1 play from Moreno ended the slump.

In the open division, Armatech (0-6) also lost to GMI Market (2-4).

Young guns Jesse and Jon Santos teamed up with Michael Cabanas in lifting GMI Market to a 78-60 victory.

The trio turned a neck-and-neck match to an 18-point winning margin after combining for 24 of GMI Market's 29 points in the final quarter. Jon Santos scored GMI Market's first 8 points in the fourth quarter, while Cabanas had 9 of his 15 in that period, and Jesse Santos chipped in 7. Andrew Palino scored the other 5 points of GMI Market, which was back to square one at the end of the third canto, 49-49, before pulling away in the final.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

KB Market's Peter Camacho pulls up for a point-blanked shot against Armatech's Martin Moreno during the fourth quarter of their masters division game in the San Antonio caging last Saturday at the San Antonio court.

NMA wraps up 2015; upbeat for 2016

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Northern Marianas Athletics will be wrapping up its 2015 calendar of events with the 34th edition of the Christmas Island Relay that will be held in the early morning of Dec. 26.

The island relay is a 13.7-mile (22 kilometers) race that starts at the south parking lot of the Pacific Islands Club and ends at the Last Command Post.

Individuals and open division participants can run the entire race or be part of a five-person squad where each team member will alternately run one mile (1.6k) from PIC to Marpi.

After last Thursday's 31st Turkey Trot Fun Run, NMA officials asked those who participated to also support their

final running event for the year. They also advised those who are interested to start forming their respective teams.



Registration fee is \$25 for both the team—\$5 for each team—and individual categories. Sign up starts at 5:30am and the race at 6am.

Last year, Team Usagi bested 10 other groups as they completed the early morning race in 1:32.24.

Seiya Eda and Beo Ngirchongor along with veterans Mamiko Oshima-Berger, Tony Ichio, and Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel were the members of Team Usagi, which means rabbit in Japanese.

Eda, Kabiriel, and Ichio also ruled the race in 2013 as part of the Road Runners with Manny

Aaron and Jessie James as the other members.

The NMA, in an email sent last week, also thanked the Public School System, all private and public schools—and their respective coaches—and the Commonwealth Ports Authority for supporting the four-leg and finale of the annual Cross Country race.

The NMA is also upbeat for the 2016 season as they prepare their calendar of events including the PSS/McDonald's All-Schools Athletics Championship.

The resurfacing of the track facility, inside the Oleai Sports Complex, is expected to start in the first quarter of the 2016 either in early January or February and is expected to open in time for the 13th edition of the All-Schools Athletics Championship.

MP

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mates and soon the entire squad and its supporters joined the celebration as referee Amzad Khan blew his whistle, signaling the end of the important game.

Tenorio, in an interview with *Saipan Tribune* after the match, said the winning goal was his third header this season. Incidentally, the first two were also courtesy of Kim's corner kicks.

SCHORR

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this week, along with the girl singles and the boys and girls doubles contests.

The second-ranked Paik book a finals berth after shutting down Min Jin Cho in the quarterfinals, 6-0, 6-0, and downing Daniel Kang in the semis, 6-2, 6-1. Kang and Cho made in to the Round of 8 following their victories against Seung Won Lee, 6-1, 6-0, and Miku Torres, 6-1, 6-0, respectively.

Woo set up a finals date against Paik after also notching two wins. His first was a 6-4, 6-0 triumph over Chris Kim, a 6-1, 2-6, 10-6 winner in the opening round against Richard Steele. The second was a 6-0, 6-2 victory over Merletti, who earlier eliminated Rintaro Miyawaki, 7-6 (6), 7-5.

Meanwhile, Anthony Gregoire joined the early champions list in the opening week of the annual tournament after ruling the round-robin boys U10 singles division.

Gregoire was unbeaten in three games to finish ahead of Andrew Chung, Min Gi Jung, and Akash Rai. Gregoire demolished Rai and Jung in similar scores, 8-0, and completed his perfect record with tough 9-7 win against Chung.

In the boys U16 singles, which also had a round-robin format, Michael Ren triumphed after beating Tony Kim, 6-3, 6-2, and Tudela, 6-4, 6-4. Tudela settled for the runner-up honors following a 6-1, 2-6, 10-8 win against Kim.

Masters

KB Market 74 — Camacho 21, Pangelinan 16, Umali 13, Puri 10, Osias 6, Lansang 2, Anasan 2, Rangamar 2, Garcia 2.

Armatech 68 — Moreno 26, Poquiz 15, Park 8, Malasarte 8, Canedo 5, Crisostomo 4, Bartolo 2.

Scoring by quarters: 17-14, 32-34, 58-55, 74-68.

Open

GMI Market 78 — Je. San-

tos 22, Cabanas 15, Jon. Santos 10, Palino 9, Deleon Guerrero 8, Babauta 5, John. Santos 5, Isip 2.

Armatech 60 — Moreno 15,

Galulu 15, Tolosa 8, Crisostomo 7, Diesta 4, Canedo 4, Malasarte 4, Gabaldon 3.

Scoring by quarters: 11-11, 29-37, 49-49, 78-60.

WINNING

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foil his opponent's plan.

Nuique seemed that he wanted to keep the fight standing in the hopes of out-boxing Sablan. Though both of them exchanged blows, Sablan did not stop in trying to take down Nuique, who thwarted several more attempts.

Sablan caught Nuique off guard to take down his foe and bring the fight to the ground. He immediately went to work in trying to force Nuique to submission landing several elbows on the latter's rib cage.

He then sneaked in a headlock but Nuique survived, wiggled out of trouble, and managed to stand up. That was, however, short lived as Sablan pushed him to the corner and delivered a flurry of punches.

Nuique kept his defense and Sablan, seeing another opportunity, took him down again and completed the win by rear-naked choke forcing his foe to tap out.

Sablan finished the match in 2:47, the official time, to improve to 4-1 with two of his wins by way of knockout.

The former Trench Warz bantamweight champion Nuique, ranked 25th out of 104 active professional flyweight fighters in Southeast Asia according to tapology.com, dropped his fifth straight bout for an 8-5 record.

Nuique's last win was against fellow Saipan bet Joe "The Combo" Duenas (3-1) in Rites

of Passage 12: Unstoppable more than three years ago.

He won by rear-naked choke submission against Duenas last April 20, 2012, which was part of his eight-fight winning streak.

"It's fun to win after being out of the fight scene for quite some time. I decided to come out of retirement to just see if I still have what it takes to fight inside the eight-sides," Sablan told *Saipan Tribune*.

"I want a rematch, write that down. Next year there will be a rematch," said Nuique, who was just a stone's throw away from Sablan, in jest.

Sablan, after the fight, said that he had to hurry back to the Commonwealth Health Center to be with his wife, who just gave birth on Friday night.

"I have to go back to CHC to be with my wife. I just went here to fight since I had a commitment to fulfill for the fight fans and the organizers," said Sablan. "Good thing Mark and I gave the fans one great fight."

Asked whether this would be the start of more fights to come or even a title shot, the "Top Gun" did not promise anything.

"We'll see next year. I'm not yet sure. This was my first fight in years. As for a title match? I think I'm not yet ready. I will just see what they would give me."

Prior to facing Nuique, Sablan's last match was against a heftier Martin "Tom Cat" Castro (2-7). He was a last-minute replacement for Leon Fasi but

sneaked in a punch that decked the 175-lb Castro to win by KO in 1:43 of the first round.

The results of the undercards of Trench Warz 19: No Turning Back will be reported in tomorrow's edition of *Saipan Tribune*.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	11	6	.647	—
Boston	9	7	.563	1½
New York	8	9	.471	3
Brooklyn	3	13	.188	7½
Philadelphia	0	17	.000	11

Southeast Division

Miami	10	5	.667	—
Atlanta	11	8	.579	1
Charlotte	9	7	.563	1½
Orlando	8	8	.500	2½
Washington	6	8	.429	3½

Central Division

Cleveland	13	4	.765	—
Indiana	10	5	.667	2
Chicago	9	5	.643	2½
Detroit	8	8	.500	4½
Milwaukee	6	10	.375	6½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

San Antonio	14	3	.824	—
Dallas	10	7	.588	4
Memphis	9	8	.529	5
Houston	6	10	.375	7½
New Orleans	4	13	.235	10

Northwest Division

Oklahoma City	11	6	.647	—
Utah	8	7	.533	2
Minnesota	8	8	.500	2½
Portland	7	10	.412	4
Denver	6	11	.353	5

Pacific Division

Golden State	18	0	1.000	—
L.A. Clippers	8	8	.500	9
Phoenix	7	9	.438	10
Sacramento	6	12	.333	12
L.A. Lakers	2	13	.133	14½

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

31st Annual Turkey Trot Fun Run

PHOTOS By JON PEREZ



Running enthusiast and veteran triathlete Tyce Mister slows down as he nears the finish line of last Thursday's Turkey Fun Run that started in Lower Base and ended on top of Mt. Tapochau, Saipan's highest point.



Participants head out on the race course after starting in Lower Base.



Some of the runners that completed the 4.2-mile (6.8 kilometers) trek up to Mt. Tapochau pose for a group photo.



Lorie Hutchison shows off her winning prize.



Rommel Buenaflor is the top runner in the 30-39 age group.



Rintaro Miyawaki was the fastest in the boys U12 division with a time of 48:30.



Jeff Race went home with his sixth straight turkey.



Conatsu Kaga, who won the girls U12 division in last week's Cross Country finals, was also the top runner in the same age group.



Gabrielle Race celebrated with another turkey.



Seiya Eda, a perennial fixture in various local running events, heads toward the finish line.



Warriors run
NBA-record start
to 18-0, beat
Kings, 120-101

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Saipan Tribune Sports

KB Market
upsets
Armatech

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

MP United clinches boys U15 title

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Sunjoon Tenorio dealt Tan Holdings-1 a heartbreaker, scoring a late header that lifted MP United to a thrilling 1-0 win in the final regular season game in the boys U15 division of the 2015 NMIFA Youth Fall League last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

With the close victory, MP United finished the shortened season with a perfect 6-0-0 win-draw-loss record and claimed the division championship. Tan Holdings dropped to a 5-0-1 mark for a runner-up finish, missing its bid for a third straight division title against the same rival. Tan Holdings-1 and MP United wrapped up the 2014 fall season with similar 4-1-0 slates, but the former won the tiebreak due to its superior goal difference, 35-27. Tan Holdings-1 then made it two in a row this spring season after earning an immaculate 10-0-0 mark.

Tenorio, however, ended Tan Holdings-1's reign, as he posted the lone goal in the deciding match at the 79:10 mark or less than a minute left in regulation.



The winning goal came off a left corner kick from Edwin Kim. Before the Kim-Tenorio connection, the former had two unsuccessful right corner kicks in the second. Kim's first try landed at the waiting hands of Tan Holdings goalie Jonathan Capayas, while the second was way off the back of the goal.

The third time was the charm for MP United with Kim getting ready for the kick, and Tenorio, Clayton Izuka, and Michael Lee taking their positions inside the penalty area. After the kick, Tenorio soared from the middle and went for the header against Alan Hinson, whose teammates Louie Calayag and Mareko Tekopua were also near the goal to provide help defense, while Capayas was at the far



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
MP United's Sunjoon Tenorio, 10, goes for the game-winning header during the closing minute of their game against Tan Holdings-1 in the boys U15 division of the NMIFA fall league last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

right side of the goal. Tenorio's header went on to drop from past the center of the post down to the net with the smaller Capayas failing to catch the ball.

A jubilant Tenorio rushed to their bench to exchange high-fives with some of his team-

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Winning return for 'Top Gun'

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The last time Andrew "Top Gun" Sablan fought inside the eight-Ssdes, Benigno R. Fitial was still the CNMI governor, Beijing, China just hosted it's first Olympics and then senator Barack Obama was set to face Republican senator John Mc-



Cain for the presidency of the United States.

Sablan ended his seven-year retirement on Friday night and made a winning return in Trench Warz 19: No Turning Back at Saipan World Resort's

Royal Taga Hall.

The 29-year-old last fought on Sept. 26, 2008, in Rites of Passage 5: Raging Warriors but showed no signs of rust in completing a first-round win over Mark "The Dark" Nuique in the headliner of a 15-bout roster.

Sablan was sort of in a hurry and only needed less than three minutes in the first round in forcing Nuique to tap out, winning by rear-naked choke against his good friend.

Both fighters sized up each other right after the opening bell with as they waited who will make the first move.

Sablan made the first move and attempted to take down Nuique but the latter managed to

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JON PEREZ

Mark "The Dark" Nuique, top, tries to get out of Andrew "Top Gun" Sablan's, partly hidden, chokehold in their main event fight last Friday night in Trench Warz 19: No Turning Back at the Royal Taga Hall of the Saipan World Resort.



Schorr retains boys U14 singles crown

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Robbie Schorr kept his boys U14 singles title in the 7th Annual Tan Holdings Tennis Classic after sweeping Ken Song, 6-1, 6-2, in the finals yesterday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan tennis courts.

The top-ranked Schorr, who won the 2014 championship against Vincent Tudela, 6-0, 6-4, earned a chance to defend his division title this year after prevailing in his first two matches over the weekend. Last Saturday morning, he topped Aditya Rai, 6-0, 6-0, and in the afternoon he returned to the court to outclass Tony Kim, 7-6 (4), 6-1, in the semifinals of the upper half of the draw.

Kim made it to the semifinals following an impressive 6-0, 6-0 triumph over Guam's Roman Merletti, while Rai advanced to the quarterfinals after ousting Allan Lee, 6-1, 6-1, in another top half of the draw bracket.

In the lower half, the second-

ranked Song first defeated Sean Lee, 6-0, 6-1, and then swept Seung Jin Paik in the semis, 6-1, 6-0, to arrange a title showdown against Schorr.

Lee and Paik, before losing to Song, won their first games against Jeffrey Seo, 6-3, 6-3, and A.J. Hudkins, 7-5, 6-1, respectively.

Paik then played in the bat-

tle for third place and fell to Kim, 3-8.

Paik is also entered in the boys U12 singles and was scheduled to duel No. 1 seed Ji Min Woo in the finals yesterday afternoon and results of their title match will be reported in *Saipan Tribune* later



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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Robbie Schorr makes a return to Aditya Rai during their quarterfinals game in the boys U14 singles event in the 7th Annual Tan Holdings Tennis Classic last Saturday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan tennis courts.